

PROCEEDINGS of the Special Conference 1959

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD  
216 NORTH BROADWAY  
SAINT LOUIS 2, MISSOURI



# *Proceedings*

of the

*Forty-Fourth Regular Convention*

of

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

**Assembled at**

San Francisco, California

**As the Twenty-Ninth Delegate Synod**

June 17—26, 1959

CONCORDIA PUBLISHING HOUSE

SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI

1959

PRINTED IN U. S. A.

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## FOREWORD

The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod met for its 44th regular Convention in San Francisco, California, from Wednesday afternoon, June 17, to Friday afternoon, June 26, 1959. It was the first time in the history of the Synod that one of its conventions had been held on the West Coast and it appeared to be the considered opinion of the delegates that the decision to "Go West" had been a wise one.

The congregations of the Bay Area were hosts to the Convention and had made the necessary arrangements, through committees, to assure a smooth-functioning convention. All sessions were held in the Civic Auditorium, which was sufficiently large to permit all voting and advisory delegates to be seated at tables on the main floor—an innovation that was much appreciated by the delegates, who attended faithfully the eight morning, nine afternoon, and four evening sessions.

The opening service was conducted in the Civic Auditorium on Wednesday morning, June 17. Dr. Clemens Hoopmann of Australia delivered the Confessional Address on 1 John 1, 8-9, and Vice-President Oliver Harms preached on Psalm 96, 3: "Declare His Glory." Holy Communion was celebrated with St. Paulus Congregation of San Francisco assuming the role of host congregation and its pastor, the Rev. Arthur Nitz, serving as celebrant, assisted by twelve clergymen of the area. 2,363 delegates and members partook of Holy Communion.

Dr. J. W. Behnken, re-elected President of Synod, presided at the sessions. Throughout the convention there prevailed a brotherly spirit of good will, an unmistakable loyalty to the Scriptures and the confessional writings of the Lutheran Church, and a deep concern to plan the work of the Synod for the next triennium according to a progressive, forward-looking pattern.

The morning and afternoon sessions were opened with devotional services which included, in the morning, sermonets preached by several of the District Presidents. The minutes, which are a part of the PROCEEDINGS, list the names of those participating in these devotional services and the topics of the sermonets.

Dr. Paul Bretscher, professor at Concordia Theological Seminary in Saint Louis, read a doctrinal essay on the topic "Take Heed unto the Doctrine." The *complete* essay has been made a part of the PROCEEDINGS.

Business was transacted on the basis of resolutions prepared and presented by the 18 committees which had been appointed by

the President of the Synod. Several of these committees had met prior to the opening of the convention. Public hearings were scheduled by those committees which dealt with matters in which there was a widespread interest. — The PROCEEDINGS include a list of all committees, pp. 104—107.

The pulpits of the congregations of the Bay Area were occupied by visiting clergymen on Synodical Sunday, June 21. The evening of Synodical Sunday was given over to the presentation of a drama of the Church at Worship and at Work. In keeping with the convention theme, the drama was entitled, "Declare His Glory"; it had been prepared and directed by the Rev. Robert Clausen and was presented by the members of the Lutheran Actors Company with special assistance from Cross and Crown Productions and selected local talent.

Preceding this event, a public reception had been held in Brooks Hall, an annex to the Civic Auditorium; this gave the members of our Bay Area congregations the opportunity to meet personally some of the leaders of the Church.

Brooks Hall also provided ample space for interesting and informative exhibits prepared by various Boards and Committees of the Synod as well as by church-related organizations.

An effort has been made to reduce the number of pages of these PROCEEDINGS by omitting the text of the various reports and memorials and printing only the text of the resolutions as they were adopted by the convention. However, preceding every resolution, the proper identification has been made (page in *Reports and Memorials*) of the report or memorial to which the resolution refers. In cases where unprinted memorials are involved, reference has been made to the pages in *Today's Business* on which the text of these unprinted memorials can be found.

W. C. BIRKNER, *Secretary*

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## **PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS Isaiah 54:1, 2**

By PRESIDENT JOHN W. BEHNKEN, D.D.

DEAR FRIENDS AND CO-WORKERS:

Christ's great commission has ever moved God's people to venture great things for Him. It is the reason why we have gathered from many parts of the world for this convention. Under the gracious guidance of the Holy Spirit permit me to set forth briefly:

### **Two Lessons of Tremendous Importance for Our Convention Business**

#### **1. Lengthen Thy Cords**

The Holy Spirit granted unto Isaiah a beautiful prophetic view of the church's marvelous growth. He calls upon the barren woman to break forth into singing because the children of the desolate are more than the children of the married wife. He explains this exceptional growth in the words: "For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited." God revealed to His prophet that the approaching phenomenal outreach of the Gospel would bring astounding numbers of Gentiles into God's family.

The prophet speaks of the church as a tent. When he realizes what phenomenal growth lies ahead, he urges: "Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations." He was very insistent, saying: "Spare not." They should not hesitate in the least, but should build larger. For that reason he added: "Lengthen thy cords."

"Lengthen thy cords" is precisely the exhortation which God addresses to every one of us. In His boundless grace God brought us to faith in Christ, our only Hope of salvation. He has made us members of the body of Christ. As such we must function. We are not withered limbs, nor are we paralyzed members of Christ's body. Through us pulsates the life-giving energy which Christ, the Head, supplies to every member. This constrains us to take an active interest in the advancement of our Savior's cause. Eagerly we must bear witness unto Christ both at home and abroad, even unto the uttermost parts of the earth. The ever-increasing, overwhelming numbers of heathen people should startle us and arouse us to more intensive efforts to bring more of them

under God's tent. Hence we must enlarge the place of the tent, we must stretch forth the curtains, we must lengthen the cords. We have no alternative.

## 2. Strengthen Thy Stakes

When you erect a tent, it is of utmost importance to have strong stakes and to drive them securely into the ground. This applies also to our work for Christ. The Savior has given us definite instruction for this work, in words which brook no misunderstanding: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature." We Christians have the express command to bring to alarmed and terrified sinners the good news of God's grace in Christ Jesus. There dare not be any watering down of the message that we receive forgiveness of sin and are restored to peace with God solely by God's grace, for Christ's sake, through faith. When modern pulpiteers mislead people with sophistry, rationalism, or even with mere ethics and morality, we must become all the more courageous and insist on driving God's stakes ever deeper. Without equivocation we must tell a dying world: "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself." "God made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him."

But Jesus also stated in unmistakable words: "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded." Read this command alongside of other clear-cut statements which fell from His lips, and you must come to the conviction that Christ was vitally concerned about pure, unadulterated doctrine. Hence you and I must insist on true doctrine. We must drive the stakes supporting God's tent ever deeper into the divinely inspired and inerrant Word of God.

We are living in a day when many congregations are highly interested in erecting beautiful church edifices. Beautiful church buildings serve a good purpose if at the same time the congregation remembers the strengthening of the stakes. But the greatest beauty of any house of God must ever be that God's Word be preached in all its fullness, all its sweetness, and all its purity. *That* strengthens the stakes.

We are living in a day when some give much attention to liturgy. Whatever proper form of worship the congregation may introduce, the thing of primary importance must be true preaching. There must be thorough indoctrination of God's people in God's holy Word that they may grow in grace and in the knowledge of their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *That* strengthens the stakes.

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Within recent years our Synod has stressed the acquisition of beautiful campuses and the erection of beautiful up-to-date buildings. That is all well and good, if at the same time we do not neglect the lengthening of the cords in the area of missions. However, far more important than buildings is the continued emphasis on sound, orthodox professors who will train sound, solid, conservative pastors, teachers, and missionaries, who will love Holy Scriptures as the inspired and inerrant Word of God and our Lutheran Confessions as the correct interpretation of Holy Writ. *That* strengthens the stakes.

Brethren, as we address ourselves to the many momentous issues of this convention, may the Holy Spirit guide and direct us in all we think and say and resolve. To that end may we listen as He says to us: "Lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes." Amen.

## PRESIDENT'S TRIENNIAL REPORT

Your President begs leave to present his triennial report to the convention.

Humbly and gratefully we acknowledge that God has graciously and abundantly blessed our Synod during the past three years. His mercies never failed us.

The synodical *Handbook* prescribes that the President and the Vice-Presidents appoint various boards and committees. These appointments were published in the *Lutheran Witness* and *Der Lutheraner*.

On both elected and appointed boards and committees a number of vacancies occurred during the triennium.

When Dr. W. H. Schlueter resigned as Treasurer of Synod, the Board of Directors appointed Dr. Martin E. Strieter to this office. As Treasurer, Dr. Strieter automatically became a member of Synod's Board of Trustees and a member ex officio of the Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House.

Mr. Ernest Rogers replaced Mr. John Roschke on the Board of Parish Education.

Dr. Louis Lochner and Mr. Eugene Friedrich found it impossible to accept membership on the Board for Missions in Foreign Countries. Messrs. Louis Dau and Paul Kummer accepted appointments to fill these vacancies. Mr. Norman Graebner felt constrained to resign. Mr. Frank Mehrings succeeded him. Rev. Walter Raedeke withdrew his membership from the Board because of his election to the Presidency of the Southern Illinois District. The Rev. T. A. Weinhold was appointed to fill this vacancy.

When Mr. Fred Lietz became Executive Secretary of the Church Extension Board, Mr. Henry C. Rupp was appointed to succeed him.

When the Rev. William Buege became Vice-President of the Minnesota District, the Rev. Elmer Koberg succeeded him on the Board for Missions to the Deaf. Because of ill health Mr. G. F. Kruse resigned in November 1958, and Mr. C. G. Jacobsen was appointed to fill the vacancy.

The death of Dr. Walter A. Baepler caused a vacancy on the Committee on Doctrinal Unity. Prof. Elmer Moeller then accepted membership on this committee.

Dr. Philip Sauer was added to the Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics.

Prof. Erwin Schnedler declined election to the membership on the Board of Appeals. The Rev. F. Worthman replaced him.

When Mr. John Pritzlaff felt constrained to resign from Synod's

Board of Trustees, Mr. Ralph E. Petering accepted appointment to this Board. Dr. W. H. Schlueter was appointed as an advisory member.

The Rev. Henry Blanke declined election to the Board for Missions in North and South America. The Rev. Walter E. Dorre accepted the appointment to fill the vacancy. Messrs. Carl Deitemeyer and Alvin Wulf felt constrained to resign from the Board, and Messrs. Frederick Schriefer and Robert Mugge became their successors. God called the Rev. Arthur Haake home in November, 1958. The Rev. Walter E. Dorre accepted the position of Resident Counselor to the Board for South America. Mr. Frederick Schriefer felt constrained to resign because of ill health. These three vacancies were not filled because of the proximity of the convention.

When the Rev. Louis Schuth felt constrained to resign from the Board of World Relief, the Rev. H. A. Etzold replaced him. When the Rev. Carl L. Kemp died, the Rev. A. Karl Boehmke succeeded him.

A vacancy occurred on our Committee on Finnish Relations when God called the Rev. R. Herrmann home. The Rev. E. W. Feldscher became his successor.

Dr. Theodore Hanser resigned from the Board of Control of the St. Louis seminary. Mr. Eugene Fincke was appointed to fill the vacancy.

The Rev. Arthur Wegener and Messrs. Eugene Miessler and Fred Koltermann of the Board of Control of Seward were called home, and the Rev. H. F. Krohn and Messrs. L. C. Heine and Dan Koltermann succeeded them.

The death of Mr. Edwin Zielske of the St. Paul, Minn., Board of Control caused a vacancy which was filled by Mr. Carl Stelling.

When Mr. H. R. Wentzel moved from the area of Concordia, Mo., Mr. Harold Dunklau was appointed to take his place on the Board of Control. President George Wittmer appointed the Rev. T. A. Weinhold to represent him at meetings of the Board.

The Rev. Henry Lieske filled the vacancy on the Portland Board of Control when the Rev. Edward May moved from the area.

During the past triennium God is His wise and gracious providence called to their eternal rest the following men, who were rendering or had rendered faithful service to Synod:

#### **Former Vice-President of Synod**

Dr. Henry A. Grueber, who prior to his Vice-Presidency also served as District President for a number of years.

#### **District President**

The Rev. Walter A. Raedeke, Southern Illinois District



**Former District Presidents**

The Rev. John F. Boerger, South Wisconsin District  
 The Rev. Carl J. Hesse, Iowa District East  
 The Rev. O. Adelbert Sauer, Southeastern District  
 The Rev. J. Geo. Spilman, Southeastern District  
 The Rev. Arthur F. Wegener, Southern Nebraska District

**Professors**

Dr. Wm. Arndt, St. Louis, Mo.  
 Dr. Walter A. Baepler, Springfield, Ill.  
 Dr. Paul F. Bente, Senior College, Fort Wayne, Ind.  
 Prof. John W. Berger, St. Paul, Minn.  
 Dr. Walter G. Herrling, Valparaiso, Ind.  
 Prof. John E. Herzer, Edmonton, Alta., Can.  
 Prof. Paul H. Riedel, St. Louis, Mo.  
 Prof. Richard T. Rohlfing, River Forest, Ill.  
 Dr. Theo. G. Stelzer, Seward, Nebr.  
 Prof. John W. Werling, Winfield, Kans.  
 Prof. Albert H. Wessling, Oakland, Calif.

**Former Professors**

Prof. Theo. C. Brohm, Oakland, Calif.  
 Prof. Carl Gaenssle, Milwaukee, Wis.  
 Prof. Karl Lorenz, Portland, Oreg.  
 Prof. Paul Reuter, Seward, Nebr.

**Others Who Have Served Synod in an Official Capacity**

The Rev. Paul C. Barth, Field Secretary, Family Worship Hour  
 The Rev. Martin Bruer, member of Board of Control, Edmonton  
 Mr. Edgar W. Buenger, former member of Synod's Board for  
 Higher Education  
 Dr. E. E. Eberhardt, member of Board of Control, Edmonton  
 Mr. A. K. Engel, Treasurer of Northwest District for 45 years  
 Dr. Julius A. Friedrich, Synod's first Director of Missions  
 The Rev. Alfred Fuehler, former member of the Electoral  
 Board, St. Louis  
 The Rev. Edward H. Gade, former Secretary of the Board for  
 Missions in South America  
 The Rev. Arthur H. Haake, Chairman of Synod's Board for  
 Missions in North and South America  
 Dr. Traugott O. Herzer, Treasurer of Canadian Lutheran World  
 Relief  
 Mr. Fred Kolterman, member of Board of Control, Seward  
 The Rev. F. Gerhard Kuehnert, former Executive Secretary  
 of Board for Support and Pensions

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Mr. A. J. Meyer, Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House

The Rev. Rud. R. C. Meyer, former member of Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House

Mr. Eugene Miessler, member of Board of Control, Seward

Prof. Louis Rabe, former member of Board of Control, Bronxville

The Rev. Theo. Roschke, former member of Synod's Church Extension Board

The Rev. Gerhard Schmidt, former member of Board of Control, St. Paul, Minn.

Dr. John F. Wenchel, synodical representative

Mr. Edwin E. Zielske, member of Board of Control, St. Paul, Minn.

Dr. Hans Zorn, former representative of Synod's Board for Missions in Foreign Countries

With gratitude to God your President can report that the committees of the Synodical Conference working under the gracious guidance of the Holy Spirit made progress in their efforts to improve the relations which, as I reported at the 1956 St. Paul convention, had become strained. We pray that God may continue to bestow His blessings on the important work of this committee.

During the past triennium your President, or one of the Vice-Presidents, attended 31 meetings of Electoral Colleges for the election of professors at our seminaries and colleges. The number of such meetings is growing as enrollments of students increase, necessitating larger faculties.

Your President, or one of the Vice-Presidents, attended the meetings of Synod's Board of Trustees. We have reason to be thankful to God that He is blessing the work of these trustees. They manage the Pension Fund, the Lutheran Laymen's League Endowment Fund, and other funds very carefully and conscientiously.

During the past triennium Synod's Board of Directors met regularly. At one meeting each year a joint session was arranged with the Board of Trustees of Valparaiso University, twice at Valparaiso and once in St. Louis. In the book of *Reports and Memorials* the Board presents a brief account of its activities. It may not be amiss to remark that members of the Board spend many, many hours in meetings during a triennium. Each member devotes many additional hours and days to the work of Synod.

Your President accepted the invitation of the Finnish National Church to preach on the occasion of its 60th anniversary on

June 29, 1958. It was a truly joyful festival, giving all glory to God. Practically every one of the Finnish brethren received his theological training at one of our seminaries.

The Lutheran World Federation had invited fifteen men of our Synod to attend its assembly in Minneapolis, Minn., August 15—20, 1957. We accepted this invitation. Since a confessional statement was to be prepared presenting the Lutheran position, on the basis of Holy Writ and the Lutheran Confessions, on a number of issues under the general topic "Christ Frees and Unites," our men, assigned to various sectional meetings, had opportunity to speak and to bear witness. The final statement was not adopted, but it was decided to present it to the churches and congregations for study. Your Committee on Doctrinal Unity and the *Praesidium* prepared a guideline for all pastors, teachers, and conferences. Unfortunately an endorsement was impossible. The theses which were prepared do not present clear-cut Scriptural statements on such important issues as the Word, the Lord's Supper, the total depravity of man, etc. We may well expect sharp controversies on these important issues. Scriptural doctrine must be set forth in unmistakable and uncompromising language. This is true especially of official documents.

When the officials of the Lutheran World Federation invited representatives of our Synod to a meeting of its Commission on Theology for the purpose of discussing "the points in question" re our nonmembership, your President and the Committee on Doctrinal Unity, in accord with Synod's resolution, requested Drs. Paul M. Bretscher and Alfred O. Fuerbringer to represent us at Oslo, Norway, in August 1958. Dr. Matthias Schulz was asked to represent our sister churches in Europe. These men were given every opportunity to take an active part in the discussions. Their report is summarized in our book of *Reports and Memorials*. For 1959 we have no invitation to send representatives to a meeting of the Commission on Theology, but it is likely that we shall be asked to send representatives to the 1960 meeting of said commission.

Our Convention Committee No. 3, the Committee on Inter-synodical and Doctrinal Matters, has been in session since Friday, June 12, to give thorough and prayerful study to this matter as well as to all the doctrinal issues presented in our book of *Reports and Memorials*.

The National Lutheran Council, in the process of reorganization, invited us to an exploratory meeting. After much discussion we declined the invitation. In his letter your President made the mistake of writing that the various Lutheran bodies now in the process of uniting into two large bodies were *doctrinally* in a state

of flux. He should have written *organizationally* in a state of flux. Many of you know that this resulted in misunderstanding and confusion. I regret this very much. Unfortunately, too, my letter was given interpretations which did not express what I intended to say. A later report in our church periodicals is correct.

The Lutheran bodies which in the spring of 1960 will begin to function as The American Lutheran Church have informed us that they are ready at any time to accept an invitation from us for the purpose of discussing matters of doctrine. Our Committee on Doctrinal Unity, decidedly busy with many assignments, has taken the matter under advisement.

A person who gives serious thought to present developments among Lutherans throughout the world must come to the conclusion that doctrinal issues should be taken much more seriously. The clamor for larger organizations in many instances is crowding out insistence on doctrinal purity. Even such basic truths as the inspired and inerrant Word of God, the total depravity of sinful man, and with it the *sola gratia* and *sola fide*, and, furthermore, the distinctively Lutheran Scriptural doctrine of the Lord's Supper are in jeopardy. Forebodings of sharp controversies on these and other Biblical doctrines appear as dark clouds on the horizon.

Unquestionably we today, as well as the coming generation, must not only be able to discern these dark clouds, but must also be ready when the dreadful storm breaks. Or do you say that this is not discernible? Must we rather say that where indifference to doctrine prevails and where men insist on compromises rather than sound agreement in doctrine, termites have been doing their destructive work and the awful crash will come? Let no one say that this is merely a cry of alarm and that there is no real danger. The situation is decidedly real. What Lutheranism needs is not greater and greater numbers by way of greater and greater mergers at any cost, but a positive and unflinching loyalty to God's Word and the Lutheran Confessions.

Hitherto God graciously granted our Synod unswerving loyalty. What about the future? Are we as alert as we should be? Are we as thoroughly acquainted with Lutheran doctrine as we should be? Are we weakening or growing tired or indifferent? Brethren, the eyes of many are focused upon us. They are asking: "What will Missouri do?" Many are praying for us fervently and effectually. Some great theologians, not members of our Synod, well acquainted with our insistence on doctrinal purity, have called our Synod — and we shall include all who are in doctrinal agreement with us — "the last hope of Lutheranism." What a tremendous responsibility this places on every one of us!

That the heart of every delegate and visitor to this convention

may be rightly attuned to the great importance of this responsibility, your President invited Dr. Paul M. Bretscher to deliver an essay on the topic: "Take Heed unto the Doctrine." He will speak to us in four one-half-hour periods. May these lectures grip our hearts and prove to be a blessing to every one of us.

Every session of the convention will begin with a brief period of worship. The over-all topic is: *Redeemed to Serve*. These periods of worship begin at 8:30 A.M. and 1:30 P.M. All delegates should arrange to be present promptly.

Synod's Board of Directors encouraged your President to accept the urgent invitation which our sister church in Australia had extended to pay it an official visit. This visit took place shortly after our 1956 convention. A brief stopover in Honolulu presented an opportunity to visit most of our flourishing churches on Oahu Island. What a marvelous privilege, to meet with brethren in the faith whose forefathers settled in Australia about the same time that the Saxons came to America! The brethren had made arrangements for a meeting of the general conference; for a joint conference of the two Lutheran bodies; for attending the convention of the Luther League, the young people's organization of our sister church; for a visit to the place where the immigrants first settled and where they erected their first school of the prophets — all somewhat of a parallel to the history of the Saxons in Perry County. Of course, the brethren gave us an opportunity also to visit the present seminary in Adelaide, some of their mission churches, as well as some of their larger churches. We enjoyed the privilege of preaching in some of them. All in all this was a truly beneficial and unforgettable experience.

Synod's Board for Missions in Foreign Countries insisted that on this trip to the Southwest Pacific your President must not pass by our mission fields in the Orient. The Board had prepared an itinerary which would make full use of the time allotted for the trip. Since a visit to New Guinea did not fit into the schedule, the Board asked Missionaries Erwin Spruth and Ian Kleinig to come to Australia, to get acquainted and to report on the work and the needs of the field. What consecrated and enthusiastic interest in New Guinea missions these young men manifested!

After leaving Australia your President visited Ceylon, India, the Philippines, Hong Kong, and Japan in the order named. Everywhere there could be only glimpses into the work of our faithful missionaries, but it afforded opportunity to witness not only how "the heathen in his blindness bows down to wood and stone," but also the power of the Gospel which prompts us to sing, "See heathen nations bending before the God we love." There was opportunity to see our first church in India, to meet small congregations

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with their Indian pastors and evangelists, to gain a better idea of the elementary and secondary schools of our missions and also of the training of national pastors. It afforded opportunity to meet many of our American as well as many of the national workers. Furthermore, it afforded the new experience and privilege to address smaller and larger groups of these fellow Lutherans through an interpreter.

These statements apply to all the countries visited. Everywhere the time was too short. Everywhere our Church has faithful and conscientious missionaries, everywhere excellent opportunities, everywhere victories for Christ. If only all you delegates could make such a trip! The firsthand information gained would move you mightily to become all the more consecrated and enthusiastic advocates of the cause of world missions.

Another unforgettable experience for your President during the past triennium was an official visit to the conventions of the Brazil and Argentine Districts in January and February 1957. Executive secretaries of our North American mission department had visited the districts, but this was the first official visit since 1928 by a member of either the *Praesidium* or the Board of Directors. In February 1959 Dr. A. H. Grumm visited the convention of the Brazil District to counsel the brethren in the matter of reorganizing the District's educational system for the training of pastors and teachers. Furthermore, he counseled the brethren what steps should be taken to become a self-governing sister church rather than a district of our Synod. Our convention will be asked to pass enabling resolutions.

Your President paid a visit to Europe in 1957 to attend the so-called "Bad Boll Meetings" in England and in Germany because this was the tenth year of such free conferences and because the invitation extended him was made especially urgent. With the exception of the first year, 1948, Dr. Herman Harms has accompanied our theologians to these conferences. During the year 1958 no meetings were held. Soon after this convention two of our theologians and Dr. Herman Harms, chosen by our Committee on Doctrinal Unity, will represent our Synod at a series of free conferences with pastors of the *Landeskirchen* and of the Free Churches.

Sometimes brethren ask whether these conferences accomplish anything. They surely do. They have contributed much to encourage and to strengthen the brethren of the Free Churches and also many of the men in the *Landeskirchen* who are lonely Lutherans and are eager to remain loyal to God's Word. There can be no doubt that these men derived great benefits from these contacts with our theologians. God's Word never returns void, but

accomplishes that which He pleases and prospers in the thing whereto He sent it.

Your President attended a convention of the Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Church on September 30, 1957, and was given the privilege of extending our Synod's greetings and the prayer for God's blessings on the convention's deliberations.

Your President also enjoyed the privilege of attending conventions of the Lutheran Laymen's League, the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, and the Walther League and extended Synod's greetings and well wishes, presented the work of Synod, and encouraged wholehearted support of the synodical program.

The Boards and Committees of Synod have submitted their reports in the book of *Reports and Memorials*. Your President herewith thanks them for their faithful service. The convention's floor committees either have given or will give thorough thought and study to these reports and to the suggestions contained in them, and will present proper resolutions.

Permit me to thank especially Synod's Board of Directors for its co-operation in the business affairs of Synod. This includes also the Counselor of the Board and the Controller. Let me express heartfelt gratitude also to Synod's Vice-Presidents, who were ever willing to render counsel and aid, especially in the spiritual supervision of the church. Permit me also to acknowledge gratefully the splendid co-operation of our District Presidents.

May God graciously bless all who have rendered faithful and conscientious service.

Now, brethren, pleading for our heavenly Father's blessings on our convention, for the motivation and the strengthening of the Christ who redeemed us, and for the gracious and effectual guidance of the Holy Spirit, we address ourselves to the important work which God has assigned to us.

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## "TAKE HEED UNTO THE DOCTRINE"

By PAUL M. BRETSCHER

### Introduction

The terms "doctrine," "teaching," "pure doctrine," "truth," "false doctrine," "error," "corrupt teaching," and similar expressions are familiar to every informed churchgoing Christian. They appear in the liturgical parts of our divine services, particularly in prayers and hymns. In the "General Prayer" of the *Order of Morning Service* we praise and petition God:

We praise Thee especially that Thou hast preserved unto us in their purity Thy saving Word. . . . And we beseech Thee, O Lord, to . . . grant unto Thy holy church throughout the world purity of doctrine. (*L. H.*, 13)

In the "General Prayer" of the *Order of the Holy Communion* we petition God:

Most heartily we beseech Thee so to rule and govern Thy church Universal . . . that we may be preserved in the pure doctrine of Thy saving Word. (*L. H.*, 23)

In other prayers which appear in our *Lutheran Hymnal* we plead:

Send, we beseech Thee, Almighty God, Thy Holy Spirit into our hearts that He . . . may defend us from all error and lead us into all truth. (P. 102)

Almighty and everlasting God . . . impart the grace and help of Thy Holy Spirit to all ministers of Thy Word that they may purely teach it to the saving of men. Bring to naught . . . all the counsels of those who hate Thy Word and who, by corrupt teaching or with violent hands, would destroy it. (P. 103)

Almighty, merciful, and gracious God and Father, with our whole heart we beseech Thee for all who have forsaken the Christian faith, all who have wandered from any portion thereof, or are in doubt or temptation through the corrupters of Thy Word, that Thou wouldest visit them as a Father, reveal unto them their error, and bring them back from their wanderings, that they, in singleness of heart, taking pleasure alone in the pure truth of Thy Word, may be made wise thereby unto everlasting life. (P. 104)

We poor sinners do beseech Thee . . . O Lord God . . . to preserve all pastors and ministers of Thy church in the true knowledge and understanding of Thy Word . . . to put an end to all schisms and causes of offense; to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred and are deceived; to beat down Satan under our feet; . . . to raise up them that fall and to strengthen such as do stand. (P. 111)

In the majestic Pentecost hymn, "Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord!" we plead with Luther:

From ev'ry error keep us free;  
Let none but Christ our Master be. (*L. H.*, Hymn 224)



In the hymn "Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide" we pray:

In these last days of sore distress  
Grant us, dear Lord, true steadfastness  
That pure we keep, till life is spent,  
Thy holy Word and Sacrament. (*L. H.*, Hymn 292)

In the powerful Reformation hymn "O Lord, Look Down from Heaven, Behold" we pray with Luther:

Defend Thy truth, O God, and stay  
This evil generation;  
And from the error of its way  
Keep Thine own congregation.  
The wicked everywhere abound  
And would Thy little flock confound;  
But Thou art our Salvation. (*L. H.*, Hymn 260)

In all these and other prayers and hymns of our Christian heritage we confess: (1) that there is such a reality as "doctrine"; (2) that there is "pure doctrine"; (3) that there is "false and pernicious doctrine," "corrupt teaching," and that there are "corrupters of God's Word"; (4) that there are those who have erred because they were ensnared by "false doctrine"; (5) that because of "false doctrine" schisms exist in the church; (6) that Satan has a hand in "false doctrine"; (7) that we recognize only Christ as our Master, our Teacher, in determining what is "true" and "false doctrine"; (8) that we need to pray for the gift and preservation of "pure doctrine."

But all these confessions which we have enumerated are not merely the product of pious, devout Christian hearts, but they are also the echo and reflection of what Scripture itself as the Word of God says regarding "doctrine," "pure doctrine," "false doctrine," "error," "heresy," and similar realities. It would now be in order to investigate and tell in greater detail, therefore, precisely what Scripture has to say about "doctrine" and related terms. This we hope to do in the four-part essay we plan to present. But before submitting our first essay, we wish at this point to say a few words regarding the term "doctrine" as we find it about fifty times in the New Testament in order to clear the path for what we shall submit in the following essay.

The New Testament employs the term "doctrine" in forty-eight passages as a translation of two Greek terms (*didachē* and *didaskalia*) which are closely related etymologically and in their meaning and usage. These terms nearly always appear in the singular and are rendered in the KJ Version with "doctrine." The plural "doctrines" occurs in only two passages. Jesus charges the scribes and Pharisees: "In vain they do worship Me, *teaching for doctrines the commandments of men*" (Matt. 15:9; Mark 7:7). And Paul writes to Timothy: "The Spirit speaketh expressly that in the

latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and *doctrines of devils*." (1 Tim. 4:1)

Furthermore, it is significant that in the original text of the New Testament the term "doctrine" is in nearly every instance preceded by the definite article "the." Thus Paul tells Timothy, "Take heed unto *the doctrine*" (KJ). This means that the speaker or writer, such as Jesus, Paul, or John, has something quite definite and well known in mind. Jesus had made known His doctrine through His preaching and teaching (John 7:16; 18:19) in the synagogues, in the temple in Jerusalem, along the shores of the Galilean Sea, and in the desert places to which He withdrew with His disciples. Also Paul's and John's doctrine had, as a result of their preaching, become well known. It never took long for people to find just what it was that Paul and John or, for that matter, any of the other apostles or their assistants, or evangelists or prophets, were preaching and teaching. And so we conclude that when either one of the two Greek terms, both translated "doctrine" in the KJ Version, appear in the NT, these terms refer in the overwhelming majority of instances to a specific, well-known "doctrine," and that, since both terms appear in the singular in the sense of the doctrine of God communicated by Christ and His apostles, that divine doctrine is "one." Just as there is *one* body, *one* Spirit, *one* hope, *one* Lord, *one* faith, *one* Baptism, *one* God and Father of all (Eph. 4:4, 5), so there is but *one* doctrine. That *one* doctrine embraces God's entire revelation to man and is centered in Jesus Christ and His salvation. Luther is therefore right when he says in his lectures on Galatians (1531): "Doctrine must be a round and golden ring without a break." And Luther adds the illustration: "If I deny God in one article, I do so in all" (WA II, 47, 3. 48, 6). Again, Luther uses the illustration of a bell whose sound is impaired if it has only a very minor crack (WA 54, 159, 1: "Kurzes Bekenntnis vom heiligen Sakrament," 1544). Luther concludes: "Rund und rein gantz und alles gegleubt oder nichts gegleubt, Der heilige Geist lest sich nicht trennen noch teilen, das er ein stück solt warhafftig und das ander falsch leren oder gleuben lassen." (WA 54, 158, 28)

Though there is only *one* doctrine, we do, of course, speak of "doctrines" of Scripture. The Augsburg Confession, to which we as Lutherans subscribe, presents twenty-one articles which it terms "articles of faith and doctrine." Luther's Small Catechism, which the Formula of Concord calls the "Bible of the Laity," is composed of a number of chief parts of Christian doctrine. In teaching "doctrine" to our students and pupils, we naturally categorize aspects of God's "doctrine" for the purpose of accenting and exhaustively dealing with every facet of the "doctrine." And yet the "doctrine" is *one*. It is God's *one* revelation to man of Himself and of His

great acts culminating in the incarnation, death, resurrection, and exaltation and recorded in the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures.

Of this *one doctrine* the New Testament in particular has much to say. This doctrine Jesus had received from the Father and taught His disciples (John 7:16). About that doctrine the high priest inquired of Jesus at the Savior's trial before the Jewish court (John 18:19). The people "were astonished at His doctrine, for His Word was with power" (Luke 4:32). This doctrine Paul calls "the doctrine of God, our Savior" (Titus 2:10), and says that "it should not be blasphemed" (1 Tim. 6:1). Luke calls it "the apostles' doctrine" (Acts 2:42) because the apostles proclaimed it. With this doctrine the apostles "filled all Jerusalem" (Acts 5:28). To the standard, or norm, of this doctrine the Christians in Rome had been converted and committed some years before Paul wrote them his epistle (Rom. 6:17; cf. also Rom. 16:17). This doctrine was something wholly "new" to the wise philosophers of Athens (Acts 17:19). In preaching this doctrine Paul and the elders had labored (2 Tim. 3:10; 1 Tim. 5:17). Paul calls it "good" doctrine (1 Tim. 4:6). He also calls it "sound" doctrine, that is, healthy, wholesome, pure, right, doctrine (1 Tim. 1:10; 2 Tim. 4:3; Titus 1:9; 2:1). As we shall develop later, the heart and center of this doctrine is always Jesus Christ, His salvation, the forgiveness merited by Him for all men. But this doctrine possesses also dynamic power; it has the capacity not merely to create faith, but also to change human lives, to instill a new life, to re-establish man in the sight of God, to make him God's beloved child, to fill man's heart with love for the brethren, with hope, with a clean conscience, with the certainty of eternal bliss in heaven.

Following this general introduction, which reminds me of the introduction of a sermon since it suggests the motifs to be presented in the body of the sermon, I will now indicate the headings of the four parts which will be submitted:

- I. God's Concern for His Doctrine
- II. The Source of Divine Doctrine
- III. The Content of Divine Doctrine
- IV. The Communication of Divine Doctrine

### I. God's Concern for His Doctrine

God is concerned about His doctrine, His revelation, chiefly because of the competition His doctrine meets at the hands of those who teach false and pernicious doctrine. False doctrine, ungodly doctrine, was introduced into the world when Satan tempted Eve in the garden by saying: "Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" (Gen. 3:1). When Eve objected

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and said: "God hath said: Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die" (Gen. 3:3), the Tempter said: "Ye shall not surely die; for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil" (Gen. 3:4, 5). In the moment Eve yielded to that temptation, pernicious error, false doctrine, the "great lie" ("The devil is the murderer since the beginning [the first one] and did not abide in the truth. When he speaks *the* lie, he speaks according to his own nature, because he is a liar and the father of it" [John 8:44]) was introduced into the world. Since that time it is strictly a case of God's doctrine versus Satan's doctrine, God's saving truth versus Satan's damning lie.

As we read the Old Testament Scriptures, we soon learn that all true doctrine comes from God and that God is deeply concerned about His truth. He wants that truth or doctrine to prevail. He is opposed to all false doctrine and lies. God's doctrine is spoken of in the Old Testament under various terms, such as "judgments" (Deut. 4:1); "statutes" (Deut. 4:4); "God's ways" (Ps. 25:4); "God's truth" (Ps. 25:5); "good judgment and knowledge" (Ps. 119:66); "testimonies" (Ps. 132:12); "God's will" (Ps. 143:10); "God's law" (Ps. 94:12); "God's Commandments" (Ex. 24:12); "the way of God's statutes" (Ps. 119:33). But God's doctrine in the Old Testament included not only laws and statutes and commandments and testimonies; it included also promises to His people in the covenants He made with Noah, Abraham, and Israel. The most significant promise in His doctrine was that He would in course of time send His people a Messiah, a Savior, from the house of David, to be born in Bethlehem, who would rule over His kingdom forever and ever, into whose kingdom also Gentiles from all parts of the world would be invited and into which they would be welcomed.

God was most jealous of His doctrine. Over and over again He spoke out through His chosen prophets against false prophets, false dreamers and their false prophecies and dreams, and He threatened these false prophets and false dreamers and their followers with fearful punishment (Deut. 18:22). We cite only two passages:

If there arise among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams and giveth thee a sign or a wonder . . . thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams . . . and that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death. (Deut. 18:1-5)

And the Lord says: Because they have forsaken My Law which I set before them, and have not obeyed My voice or walked in accord with it, but have stubbornly followed their own hearts and have gone after the Baals, as their fathers

taught them; therefore thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will feed this people with wormwood and give them poisonous water to drink. (Jer. 9:13-15 RSV)

When we attempt to summarize what it was that constituted true doctrine in the Old Testament, we arrive at these conclusions: (1) that all true doctrine comes from God and that false doctrine was initiated by the devil; (2) that God revealed Himself and His doctrine through Moses and the other prophets; (3) that God's will and doctrine demanded absolute obedience; (4) that God's doctrine stood in direct opposition to that of false prophets and false prophecies, the doctrines of men; (5) that God's honor was violated and offended when men falsified and perverted God's pure teaching and followed after the teachings of false teachers; (6) that God's doctrine in the Old Testament included also the promise of a Messiah, the Suffering Servant, who would suffer and die and rise again for the sins and eternal welfare of His people; that this Messiah would establish a Kingdom of which He Himself would be King, that this Kingdom would endure forever and that both Jews and Gentiles would be subjects in that Kingdom. Here, then, was a great body of "doctrine" which was God's "doctrine," since He gave it, and behind which stood God's honor and supreme authority, as is evidenced also by His so-often-repeated "Thus saith the Lord, the Holy One of Israel." That doctrine was intended to have Israel recognize God as its absolute Ruler and King whose laws and commandments, testimonies and statutes could never be set aside with impunity. But this doctrine included also the theme that this same God was forgiving and merciful to those who confessed their sins and pledged renewed allegiance to God's covenant.

In the life of Jesus we note both a very positive and negative concern about "doctrine": a positive concern for *His doctrine* and a negative concern regarding all *false doctrine*. Jesus Himself taught. In Matt. 4:23, which summarizes the activity of Jesus in Galilee, it is said first "that He *taught* in the synagogues." Then we read that He proclaimed the good news of the kingdom of God and healed the sick (Matt. 9:35; 12:9 f.). Like the Rabbis of His day, Jesus, too, interpreted passages from the Old Testament (Luke 4:16 ff.; Matt. 5:21 f; 15; 2; 22:37). But He was not primarily concerned about providing intellectual knowledge, but rather, like Moses and the prophets, toward ordering the life of His hearers toward God and toward love of the neighbor (Matt. 22:37; 19; 16 ff.). Therefore His doctrine always appealed to the will and to a decision for or against the will of God. Like the Rabbis and scribes, Jesus, too, taught that God's will is revealed in the Old Testament Scriptures, especially in the Law, so that He refused to surrender even a jot or tittle of the Law (Matt. 5:17).

For Jesus, however, the will of God was inextricably bound up with Jesus' own person. He declared Himself to be the Son of God and the Messiah. This amazed His hearers as much as what He taught, for He put Himself on the same level with God. (Matt. 7:28; 13:53; 7:29; Mark 1:22)

It is in the Gospel of John where we learn most clearly what His doctrine was. It was not only an underscoring of the Law of Moses and a stress on God's absolute claim on man. It was rather — and that was the distinctive aspect of His doctrine — that as the Son of God He had come to declare the Father, to reveal Him, and to execute the Father's will for the redemption of man, to die as the Lamb of God for the sins of the world, and to give eternal life and salvation to all who believed on Him as their Savior. Such believers would not enter into judgment, and He would raise them up on the last day. And those who believed in Him would live also in Him and would manifest their love for Him by their love of the brethren.

We note also that Jesus, though He recognized the validity of God's Law as given in the Old Testament, rose above the false interpretations of that Law with His majestic and authoritative "But I say unto you" (Matt. 5:21 ff.). His authority was that of an ambassador sent from God, who does not have His doctrine from Himself, but from Him who sent Him (John 7:16; 8:28). And His doctrine did not consist in exalted and esoteric wisdom intended for a few brilliant minds, but in the revelation of Himself to all who would hear Him by His words and deeds as the Messiah, the Son of God, and the Savior of mankind. His call to repentance demanded a conversion by God Himself, and His teaching a whole-hearted discipleship and an absolute obedience. He Himself selected the Twelve whom He meant to send out into the world. They did not choose Him. These disciples did not become teachers in the sense that they, too, now founded schools of thought. But they remained faithful students of that one Master who had called them into the service. Their task was to be His ambassadors, to communicate His Word, which He Himself had received from the Father, to recognize His authority as final (Matt. 26:18; Mark 14:14; Luke 22:11; Matt. 23:8), to witness to Him, to His Word and mighty acts, in particular to His resurrection from the dead.

But just as Jesus was concerned in a positive way about the doctrine which He taught and communicated to His disciples, so He opposed also all false doctrines. Therefore He warned against the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees, that is, their false doctrine. Therefore He rejected the traditions of the Jewish teachers which had taken the place of God's doctrine recorded in the Old Testament. Therefore He warned against false prophets who would

come in sheep's clothing. Therefore He told His disciples not to be deceived by false Christs and false prophets who would appear at the end of time and would deceive, if this were possible, even the elect. His one concern was that His way, His doctrine, His truth — for He was Himself the Truth — would be accepted and believed. This means also: recognition that God is God and that He has the first and last claim on man's life; that man must be born from above, from God, through the water and Spirit; that man must believe in Jesus as the Son of God and Savior of the world; that man must deny himself and take up the cross and follow the Savior; that man must be prepared even to lay down his life for the brethren; that the disciple must be ready to disciple the whole world and to teach those who had been baptized to "observe *all* that He had commanded them," that is, His Word and His sacraments. He taught His disciples to understand the Old Testament Scriptures; He opened their eyes to see in all the Old Testament Scriptures the things concerning Himself, "that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in His name to all nations" (Luke 24:46, 47). And when His own teaching ministry came to a close, He promised His disciples another teacher, the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, whom He would send from the Father. This Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, would be with the disciples forever (John 14:16). "He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you" (John 14:26). "He will bear witness of Me" (John 15:26). "He will reprove the world of sin and of righteousness and of judgment" (John 16:8). Because of this Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, the disciples would have power also to witness boldly *in* the name and *to* the name of Jesus.

Jesus had given His disciples His doctrine, His Word, and His sacraments. He had carefully instructed them. He had also warned them against false prophets and false Messiahs who would attempt to deceive them. As we study the New Testament books, in particular the letters of Paul and Peter and John, we note that not long after the founding of the church in Jerusalem the Savior's warnings began to materialize. Paul tells the elders of Ephesus: "I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch and remember that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn everyone night and day" (Acts 20:29-31). Paul had to tell the Galatians: "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from Him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel; which is not another; but there be some that trouble you and would pervert the Gospel of Christ. But though

we or an angel from heaven preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed" (Gal. 1:6-8). In 1 Cor. 15 Paul directs himself in strong words against those who denied the resurrection of the body (1 Cor. 15:12-20). In Colossians he attacks what may be called the beginnings of Gnostic errors. He writes: "Beware lest any man make a prey of you by philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ" (Col. 2:8). He warns the Ephesian Christians that they should not henceforth be "children tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive" (Eph. 4:14). And again, "Let no man deceive you with vain words" (Eph. 5:6). To the Corinthians Paul writes to be on their guard against "false apostles, deceitful workers, who transform themselves into the apostles of Christ." And he adds: "And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light." (2 Cor. 11:13, 14)

In his letters to Timothy and Titus Paul, as we had already noted, speaks of the doctrine which he preached as "good" doctrine, as "sound," that is, healthy, wholesome, right, true, doctrine. As we gather from Paul's letters themselves, for Paul doctrine is "good" and "sound" if it is in accord with the words of the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Tim. 6:4); if it is in accordance with Scripture, that is, the Old Testament Scriptures; if it is "according to godliness," that is, if it is in keeping with the faith of the church which had been founded through the preaching and teaching of Jesus and the apostles. In these letters to Timothy and Titus, Paul expresses also frequent and great concerns about false doctrines. He warns against people who "occupy themselves with myths and endless genealogies which promote speculations rather than the divine training that is in faith" (1 Tim. 1:4 RSV); "against deceitful spirits and doctrines of devils" (1 Tim. 4:1); against what appears to be Gnostic heresies: "forbidding marriage and enjoining abstinence from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving" (1 Tim. 4:3); against "disputing about words, which does no good but only ruins the hearers"; against "godless chatter"; against "stupid, senseless controversies." (2 Tim. 2:14, 16, 23 RSV)

As one other apostle who warns most seriously against false and heretical teachers and teachings we mention John. John, like Paul, is concerned about the true doctrine, that is, the doctrine about God and the Lord Jesus Christ. He refers to commandments he had preached and taught the Christians to whom he is writing. He says: These commandments I have received from the beginning, that is, from Christ Himself, such as: God is Light; Christians should walk as He is in the light (1 John 1:5-7). "And this is His



commandment, that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another" (1 John 3:23). And he repeatedly uses the terms "truth" and "doctrine" obviously as a summary of the total doctrine which he had received from the Master. He, too, like Paul, warns against false Christs, which he calls antichrists, who are attempting to deceive the members of the church. "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are of God; for many false prophets have gone out into the world" (1 John 4:1 RSV). "John does not treat Christianity as a religion containing elements of truth, or even more truth than any religion which had preceded it. John presents Christianity to the soul as a religion which necessarily has everything to it, if it is not really to be worse than nothing" (Alex. Ross, *The Epistles of James and John*, pp. 171, 172). Similar warnings against false doctrine and false teachers we find in the Epistles of Peter, in Jude, and in the Epistle to the Hebrews.

We can make only a summary statement regarding the concern of great Christian leaders after the death of the apostles for the truth and purity of Christian doctrine. In retrospect it appears that whenever the church was attacked by errorists and heretics, the Lord of the church raised up stalwart confessors of the truth who were prepared to suffer all, even death, in defense of sound doctrine. We think, for instance of Athanasius, the true originator of the Nicene Creed adopted in 325, who throughout his life defended the deity of Christ and helped clarify for Christians on the basis of Scripture the relation between the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Missouri Synod recognized the great theological contribution made by Athanasius when it in 1926, at the dedication of the new Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, honored the memory of Athanasius by an archway bearing a plaque with this inscription: "Athanasius, 296—373, Preserver of the Faith of Christendom, Victorious Defender of the Doctrine of the Deity of Christ, Persecuted for Righteousness' Sake, Revered to Endless Ages." We think, too, with gratitude to God of the great ecumenical councils in the fourth and fifth centuries, which have sometimes been stingingly referred to as quarrels among theologians ("Theologen-Gezänk"), but which were in truth dominated by a profound concern to preserve the truth of Scripture and to establish unity in the church of Christ.

As we skip over the centuries constituting what we are wont to call the Middle Ages, we pause whenever we think of the sixteenth century. For in this century, too, God raised up a great leader, Martin Luther, who with his loyal co-workers purified the church from doctrinal errors that had crept in over the centuries, and who attempted to restore the church doctrinally to the church of the

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apostolic period. We give thanks to God for the Augsburg Confession and its Apology, for Luther's Catechisms, and the other writings which we call our Lutheran Symbols. We note, whenever we read them, the deep concern of these confessors that the Word of God be proclaimed and taught in its purity and the sacraments administered according to Christ's institution. We note in these symbols the condemnations of grievous errors and heresies which disturbed the church since the early centuries. And as we reflect a bit on the great orthodox teachers of the late sixteenth and the early seventeenth century, we again thank God for having given the church these teachers, whose genuine concern was to help preserve the truth recovered in the Reformation and to guard it against the incursions of false Roman and Reformed teachings.

We think of the great Christian leaders whom God gave to our own church, men who left Europe for conscience' sake and came to our country in the hope that here they could worship God according to convictions founded on the pure Word of God as summarized in our Lutheran Symbols. And we think, with deep gratitude, also of the great leaders of our church in the generations following Walther, Wyneken, Sihler, and others; for these, too, pastors, missionaries, and teachers were equally devoted to the concern of preserving pure doctrine and defending it against all errors. Our own generation needs to ask itself whether it is as truly concerned about God's doctrine and truth as were the fathers and forefathers, or whether it is, because of many temptations within and without the church, yielding to an indifferent attitude toward doctrinal values. When a church increases statistically, it is in great temptation to become more concerned about organization and administration matters, about rapid expansion methods, about uniformity in worship, about public relations, than about its doctrinal basis and heritage. All these phases of church activity have their place; but they must always occupy a place subordinate to the doctrine of the church. For the church must first of all give evidence to its members and to the world that it stands wholly committed to "all that Christ commanded His disciples"; it must constantly be on the alert in all its projects and activities that "sound," "pure" doctrine be proclaimed and taught and that the life of the church reflect God's love in Christ through the church's love of the brethren and through its endeavor to evangelize all nations.

We are living in a day of almost incredible scientific research. We are also living in a day of almost incredible Scriptural research carried on philologically, archaeologically, philosophically, and psychologically. No one will question that such research has resulted in values. But we dare never become blind to the dangers

involved. We can engage in so much Scriptural research that we no longer hear God's voice in Scripture. We can do so much Biblical research that we no longer *search* the Scriptures to find in them Christ and eternal life. Scripture is God's book given by Him to the church. In it God speaks and teaches to make men wise unto salvation; and this Scripture is useful also for instruction, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness (2 Tim. 3:16). Thus God's concern for the truth and doctrine of His Word in Scripture must continue to be also the most basic concern of the church. It must, therefore, continue to be the deepest concern of our Synod.

Holy Scripture is the book given by God the Holy Spirit to His Church. From this book the Church learns what the Church is, what the Church must do, what the Church must suffer, where the Church should abide (*bleiben*). Where this book ceases, there the Church ceases. For He (Jesus) says: His Church will not listen to the voice of strangers. (Martin Luther, *Erlangen* ed., 26, 100, 101)

## II. The Source of Divine Doctrine

"Take heed unto *the* doctrine!" So Paul writes to Timothy. What was the source of the doctrine to which Timothy was to give attention and which Paul had committed to Timothy as a sacred trust? Was it the doctrine of the Pharisees, in which Paul had been instructed when he sat at the feet of Gamaliel? Was it the product of Paul's own fertile mind and imagination? Was it the doctrine which Paul had discovered in philosophical systems of thought, such as Stoicism and Epicureanism, currents of philosophic speculation with which Paul had come in contact in the larger cities where his missionary zeal had taken him? Was it some Oriental cult stemming from Egypt or Persia or even India which formed the basis of Paul's doctrinal orientation? Was it an adaptation of first-century Gnosticism with which Paul had to contend as we note in some of his epistles? Or was his doctrine no more than a Hellenized form of a Jewish myth?

It was none of these. Paul could rather refer directly to two sources of his doctrine, which were, however, closely interrelated. It is these which he wishes Timothy to remember and to which Timothy was to cling. One of these sources was the Old Testament. This was for Paul God's authoritative Word. From it he frequently quotes in his epistles. In reference to this source he can say "according to the Scriptures" (1 Cor. 15:3,4). The other source is the Gospel which Paul had proclaimed and taught. Of this he declares: "But I would have you know, brethren, that the Gospel which was preached by me is not man's Gospel, for I neither received it of man neither was I taught it, but by the revelation

of Jesus Christ" (Gal. 1:11, 12). Repeatedly Paul, therefore, uses the phrase "according to *my* Gospel" (Rom. 2:16; 16:25 a; 2 Tim. 2:8; 1 Tim. 1:11). But that Gospel he had received from the Lord. Furthermore, in his epistles Paul tells us several times that he is quoting a word, a saying, of the Lord Jesus. He tells the elders of Ephesus: "One must remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said: It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35; cf. also 1 Cor. 7:10)

Finally, though Paul became an apostle as "one untimely born," since he was called into the apostleship by the risen Lord after the other apostles had already begun their missionary activity, Paul nevertheless shared in the authority and responsibility which the Lord had given His Twelve during His life on earth and in the interim between Christ's resurrection and ascension. Writing, therefore, from prison and daily awaiting his execution, Paul, as a true apostle, warns Timothy in his Second Epistle to him: "Do not be overcome by deceivers. Evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived" (2 Tim. 3:13). Then he adds the authoritative directive: "Continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of *whom thou hast learned them.*" It was Eunice and Lois, Timothy's mother and grandmother, who had first introduced young Timothy to the Old Testament. But it was Paul, the apostle of Jesus Christ, who had brought Timothy to a knowledge of Jesus when he met Timothy at Lystra on his second journey (Acts 16:1-3). And it was from the apostle Paul that Timothy had learned how correctly to interpret the Old Testament, namely, that the Old Testament with its promises and types of the Messiah is to be understood Christologically. Therefore Paul continues: "And that from a child thou hast known the Holy Scriptures of the Old Testament, which are able," that is, which possess the dynamic power to instruct you for salvation by creating in you faith in Christ Jesus (2 Tim. 3:15). And Paul the apostle characterizes the divine nature of these Holy Scriptures in the well-known verse: "All Scripture, since it is given by inspiration of God, is profitable also for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (2 Tim. 3:16). Thus Paul saw in the Gospel committed to him not a new doctrine, but rather the fulfillment of what God had long ago promised in the sacred Scriptures of the Old Testament. The immediate source of his doctrine which he taught Timothy was his Gospel, that Gospel which the ascended Lord had revealed to this last of His chosen apostles, but that Gospel had its deepest roots in the inspired writings of the Old Testament. This Gospel Paul left as a heritage to the church in his epistles.

But what Paul declared to be the source of his doctrine was also the source of what the other apostles proclaimed and taught. They, too, regarded the Old Testament not only as God's authoritative Word, but also as God's revelation in which He held out the promises of a Messiah-King. These other apostles had been fortunate to see and hear what the Old Testament prophets did not see and hear. They saw the Messiah-King in person, were called by Him into His fellowship, discipleship, and apostleship, and under the guidance of His Spirit, the Comforter, composed those books of the New Testament not written by Paul. The doctrine which they proclaimed, taught, and wrote they, too, received from Christ Himself and from the Old Testament Scriptures. And thus the Christian Church from the earliest times believes, proclaims, and teaches the divine doctrine which has its source in the Old Testament and in the words and teachings of Jesus Himself. At first the church read only the Old Testament books in its divine services. But in the course of time our New Testament books were also read and received the same authoritative sanction which the Old Testament enjoyed. By and by these New Testament books were gathered into what is known as the New Testament canon. These books the church, through the providential care of God, preserved throughout the ages to our own day. Both the Old Testament and the New Testament, therefore, constitute for Christians the source of divine doctrine. It is these Scriptures which were given by the Spirit of God. In them God speaks to every generation regardless of culture and language. They are the deposit which contain for all times the divine doctrine, the divine teaching, through which God builds and preserves the church.

By the grace of God Luther discovered, in the course of his controversies with the Roman Church, the great truth that Scripture alone is the source of divine doctrine. This became also the position of his followers, in fact, also of the Reformed churches that came into being in the sixteenth century. The principle "Scripture alone" is made most explicit in the Formula of Concord, the last of the Lutheran Symbols. From "The Summary, Content, Rule, and Standard according to which all dogmas should be judged, and the erroneous teachings that have occurred should be decided and explained in a Christian way" we quote the following:

We believe, teach, and confess that the sole rule and standard according to which all dogmas together with (all) teachers should be estimated and judged are the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures of the Old and of the New Testament alone. . . . Other writings, however, of ancient or modern teachers, whatever name they bear, must not be regarded as equal to the Holy Scriptures, but all of them together be subjected to them, and should not be received otherwise or further than as wit-

nesses, which are to show in what manner after the time of the apostles, and at what places, *this pure doctrine of the prophets and apostles was preserved.* (Triglot, 777)

The Holy Scriptures alone remain the only judge, rule, and standard, according to which, as the only teststone, all dogmas shall and must be discerned and judged, as to whether they are good or evil, right or wrong. (Triglot, 779)

Unfortunately, however, throughout the history of the church, in fact, since Old Testament times, not only the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures of the Old and the New Testament, but also other sources have been, and in instances still are, regarded to be sources of divine doctrine. There were the false prophets and seers in the Old Testament period who also claimed to be possessed of the Spirit of God and to proclaim divine truth. There were the traditions of the scribes and Pharisees, termed by Jesus "traditions of men," which had in course of time achieved the same authoritative status as the Old Testament itself. There were the false teachers, false spirits, antichrists, who appeared in the apostolic church and claimed to have a divine mission. There were the efforts of some in the early centuries to introduce as other sources of truth pagan myths and Greek philosophic speculation as sources of divine truth. There was, for a time at least, an alleged "secret apostolic tradition" known only, so it was claimed, to certain especially endowed leaders in the early church.

We must object also to the position of the Roman Catholic Church regarding its source of doctrine. In this church *tradition* replaces Scripture as norm of doctrine. For this church tradition is not merely conservatism, but the dynamic voice of the church. The Roman Church, then, is in a position in which it can, and in fact does, add to the sum of saving truth. We need think only, as a case in point, of the promulgation of the "Dogma of the Bodily Assumption of Mary" by Pius XII (1950).

But we think also of the enthusiasts in Luther's day — Luther regarded even the pope to be an enthusiast, but they are found in every age — who claimed to receive revelations from the Spirit of God apart from the Word of God which we have in the Holy Scriptures. There is furthermore the effort first made in the early Christian centuries to combine with the divine doctrine of Scripture philosophic thought, an effort which culminated in the thirteenth century in the theological system of Thomas Aquinas. There is the effort in our day to do the same thing by theologians who are not satisfied with the doctrine of God as Scripture has it, but who limit it by an existential interpretation or broaden its scope by proposing a wider philosophic foundation for the determination of Christian doctrine.

The principle "Scripture alone" means also for us as Lutherans that Scripture is its own interpreter; not the wisdom of men, not the mind of the interpreter who dares to rise above Scripture and dictate to Scripture what it must mean; least of all an ecclesiastical authority which presumes to be able to determine with absolute certainty the intended meaning of difficult Scripture passages. And when we say "Scripture alone," we are also saying: Scripture in its immediate and most obvious sense, regardless of whether that sense meets or does not meet the approval of the interpreter. Thus no one has the right arbitrarily to excise or expurgate portions of Scripture as though he were editing for high school students a novel by Walter Scott or Washington Irving. No one has the right to interpolate, or repartition, or rearrange sections of a Biblical book to suit his own fancy. Least of all is it within the right of anyone to empty the text of Scripture of its obvious meaning on the grounds that thought patterns of Scripture are couched in ancient and no longer intelligible mythological terms, and to fill those emptied words with other meanings suggested by the mind of the interpreter. The Lutheran interpreter must therefore reject the following views and practices:

1. co-ordinating with Scripture "ecclesiastical tradition";
2. placing any authority — popes, councils, or symbols — above Scripture;
3. viewing Scripture as the record of the natural evolution of the faith of Israel and the early church;
4. viewing Scripture as a book of inferences made by men from God's mighty acts;
5. all views which regard the prophetic and apostolic Word as no more than a unique but fallible, human witness to revelation;
6. failure to acknowledge the organic unity and essential Christocentricity of the Old and the New Testament;
7. all attempts to get beyond or away from the "plain sense" of Scripture by means of allegorical, demythological, or existential methods of interpretation.
8. arbitrary excision, interpolation, or emendation of the text;
9. every interpretation of Scripture which is not in accord with Scripture's central teaching, namely, justification by faith in Christ;
10. failure to hear Scripture on its own terms and in its own categories by the attempt to make it conform to a preconceived system of thought;
11. abuse of the recognition that Scripture employs literary types by arbitrarily assigning certain sections of Scripture to myth or legend.

NOTE: These eleven theses are a summary compiled by Merrill Kluhsman for my course *Sola Scriptura*. (Spring quarter, 1958—59)

But the question is in order: What is the relation of the "dogmas and doctrines" of the church to Scripture as the source and fountain of all divine doctrine? We all know that the church has "dogmas and doctrines," though, as we indicated above, strictly speaking, "divine doctrine is *one*." We think of the Ecumenical Creeds (Apostolic Creed, Nicene Creed, Athanasian Creed). These Ecumenical Creeds, as we call them, express the faith of all Christians who revere the Bible as the Word of God: they deal with most important facets of divine doctrine, such as the person and work of Jesus Christ, and the Holy Trinity. Yet these creeds do not presume to be doctrinal additions to what is contained in the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures. They are not more than summary statements in which the great Scriptural truth regarding Jesus Christ and the Holy Trinity is precisely and succinctly stated for the upbuilding of the faith and for the rejection of errors. — We have, furthermore, our Lutheran Symbols: the Augsburg Confession and its Apology; Luther's two Catechisms; the Smalcald Articles; the Formula of Concord. These symbols merely spell out the pure doctrine of Scripture as Luther and his colaborers and followers discerned it in Scripture. To both the Ecumenical Creeds and the Lutheran Symbols every pastor, teacher, and congregation belonging to Synod subscribes as the true exposition of the Scriptures. Our church subscribes to these creeds and symbols, furthermore, not "insofar as," but "because" they are in truth the true interpretation of God's Word in Holy Scripture.

When we, as Lutherans, confess that Scripture alone is the source and fountain of divine doctrine, and when we say that the creeds and our Lutheran Symbols are for us true expositions of the Christian faith, we are thanking and glorifying God for what He has done for us, moved only by His love and grace. We are also in deep humility confessing to the world that we regard ourselves as belonging to that great multitude of saints known as the church, which, as Luther reminds us, originated already in the Garden of Eden, has continued to our own day, and will endure to the end of time. In making this confession we are also declaring that we belong and want to belong to that church of the ages which has most faithfully clung to the pure doctrine of the Holy Scriptures. We are at the same time thanking God for the many teachers He gave to the church who taught the Word of God in its purity and transmitted it in its purity to future generations. And we are, finally, breathing a prayer that God would preserve to us that truth and enable us to transmit it in its purity and fullness to our children and children's children.

But whenever we are aware of our obligation to Scripture and the creeds and symbols of our church, we are in that moment also



indicating our dissent from all those who limit or expand the scope of divine truth.

There are those in Christendom who believe that the substance of Christian doctrine can be neatly summarized in the simple confession "Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior," but who leave it to the individual to interpret this confession as he wills. There are others who scorn and reject all creeds and confessions as man-made doctrines and barriers to personal faith. There are still others who believe that the substance of Christian doctrine is sufficiently summarized in the Apostles' Creed and that Scripture as the great fountain of divine doctrine is really antiquated and outdated. There are others, finally, who believe that the source of divine truth is larger than Holy Scripture. They tell us that since divine truth might be found also in the sacred books of other religions, Christians ought to expand their canon to include these other sacred books. Against all these views we Lutherans maintain that God, who once spoke portion by portion and in various ways and at various times through His prophets in the period of the Old Covenant, has spoken in these last days, that is, at the beginning of the Messianic Age, with finality and with unique clarity and sufficiency through His Son, and that this Son Jesus Christ has spoken by His Spirit through His chosen apostles the authoritative Word of God, and that it pleased God to deposit His Word in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

With the Formula of Concord we believe, teach, and confess:

Primum igitur toto pectore prophetica et apostolica scripta Veteris et Novi Testamenti, ut limpidissimos purissimosque Israelis fontes, recipimus et amplectimur et sacras litteras solas unicam et certissimam illam regulam esse credimus, ad quam omnia dogmata exigere, et secundum quam de omnibus tum doctrinis tum doctoribus iudicare oporteat. (*Triglot*, 850)

We therefore receive and embrace with our whole heart the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the clear and pure fountain of Israel, and we believe only the Holy Scriptures to be the unique and most certain standard by which all teachers and teachings are to be judged.

### III. The Content of Divine Doctrine

The term "doctrine" in the sense of "Scriptural doctrine" does not enjoy great favor in present-day Protestantism. Scriptural doctrine was oftentimes perverted even in the early days of Christianity. But in our day, perhaps more so than before in the entire history of Christianity, the very term "doctrine" is receiving rough treatment. In any case, the term is frequently regarded with an air of disdain and condescension. "Doctrine," so it is claimed, only sharpens and deepens divisions among churches. Stress on "doctrine," so it is argued, leads to static formalism and a dead

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faith. The term "orthodoxy" is scorned and made to resemble a fierce-looking scarecrow of which not only children but also adults need to be afraid. And so we find that the many formulations of Christian doctrine compiled in the days of the Reformation have hardly more than passing historical significance and carry little, if any, weight in many Protestant churches.

What is stressed in our day by many Protestants is not "doctrine" but the "proclamation of the Gospel," for which an important Greek New Testament word is "kerygma." Thus we hear a great deal about "kerygmatic preaching." Let us, so it is said, not take creeds, confessions, doctrinal formulations too seriously, for we have a superhuman job to do, we must "evangelize" the world. For, so it is sometimes put, faith in the New Testament is not faith in any creedal or doctrinal statement, but is faith in the person of Jesus Christ. Furthermore, God is not an "it" about which we make statements and formulate definitions. He is not even a "He" regarding whom we might say many good things. God is rather a "Thou." Therefore let us stress the "I-Thou" relationship between the sinner and God, and we will revitalize the faith of the church and pave the way, in addition, for a coalition and unification of all Christian bodies. A distinguished theologian puts it this way:

Our dealing with God is of the nature of a dialogue rather than philosophic reflection. Revelation, then, in the Biblical sense, is a personal matter, not academic, as with a set of truths or propositions. Much Christian theology, it is true, has caused confusion here. Both Catholic and Protestant thinkers have been at fault, and have made the mistake of treating the Gospel as if it were philosophic, or speaking of it in terms of truth, but forgetting that it is always personal truth. But recent Biblical scholarship has shown how misleading this is. (E. C. Blackman in *Biblical Interpretation*. Philadelphia: The Westminster Press, 1958, 26, 27)

Now, no one acquainted with the history of the church will deny that Christianity has in some periods of its history created the impression that a set of doctrinal statements and creeds approved, confessed, proclaimed, and taught by the church was sufficient evidence of a vibrant living and personal faith. Every confessional church can, without a doubt, succumb to this danger. For it is possible to know and believe a great deal of "doctrine" and yet to stand in no believing and trusting relation to God and the Savior Jesus Christ. "Doctrine" can be so one-sidedly stressed and its content so meticulously and exhaustively phrased and organized that a score of volumes may be needed to make explicit many of its implications. Nor will anyone deny that a living faith in the living God must always be a personal faith and a faith which does stand in an "I-Thou" relationship to God and Christ,

a faith which manifests the new birth, the stirrings of the new life, the being in Christ, the living for Christ, the possession of the Spirit, genuine love of the brethren, a faith because of which the individual is prepared to suffer and to bring the supreme sacrifice.

And yet, though all this is true, there are two reasons why the church must constantly be alive to "doctrine." One is that whatever we know about God and Christ, about sin and salvation, about creation and the destiny of the universe, is made known to us by God in words, phrases, statements by His holy writers. They tell us, by way of illustration, who the true God is, who Christ is, what His relation is to the Father, who the Holy Spirit is and what He does, what it means to be saved, and what the nature of the Christian life is. These same Scriptures also supply Christians with the motivation and the power to believe and do what God says in the Scriptures. All this, assembled in however comprehensive a form, we call "doctrine." To say, "I believe in Jesus," but not to be aware that Jesus is the Son of God and also true man, that He fulfilled the Law for sinners, that He died and rose again in man's stead, that He achieved for all mankind pardon for sin, release from the fear of eternal death, that because He arose from the dead, also His followers will arise bodily to eternal life, that He imparts to the Christian His life and enables him to serve Christ in righteousness, innocence, and holiness—to have no knowledge of this may still be faith, but it is hardly a faith which *knows* whom it believes and which is capable to sustain one in the severe trials and temptations of life. But this is only one consideration. The other is this.

The New Testament repeatedly stresses not only the Gospel and its proclamation, but also the reality and importance of "doctrine" in a wider sense. We have such references particularly in Paul's epistles to Timothy and Titus and in the epistles of John.

Having warned against scandalous sins, Paul simply concludes: "And if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine." (1 Tim. 1:10)

2 Tim. 4:3: "The time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine."

Titus 1:9: "Holding fast the faithful Word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers."

1 Tim. 4:6: "If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained."

2 John 9:10: "Whosoever transgresseth and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house."

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Moreover, for Paul and John and other writers of the New Testament, "doctrine" is conceived of not only as a *process* of communication. Rather, for Paul and John and others who contributed to our New Testament, "doctrine" also has content; it has, as it were, building blocks; it is something that can be and should be known. Wholly apart from such injunctions as we quoted above, we need think only of the New Testament epistles. Let us cast a quick glance into Paul's epistles to the Romans and to the Ephesians. In the former Paul declares and elaborates that all men, Jews and Gentiles, are under sin and what sin is; then he presents that grand doctrine known as justification by faith without the deeds of the Law; thereupon he speaks of the sanctified Christian life, sanctified by the Spirit of God; then he speaks of the certainty of the Christian faith; he also speaks explicitly of God's foreknowledge and predestination; finally he provides in great detail directives for Christian life and conduct. In his Epistle to the Ephesians Paul tells about the nature of the Christian Church, that it is constituted of both Jews and Gentiles; but here, too, he points out how Christians, who are members of the church, need to live. Why is the New Testament so full of "doctrine"? Because the apostles took seriously what Jesus had commanded them when He met them in Galilee after His resurrection and told them: "Go and teach, that is, make disciples of all peoples . . . teaching them to observe *all* things whatsoever I have commanded you" (Matt. 28:19). Paul could, therefore, honestly tell the Ephesian elders: "I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God" (Acts 20:27). We think also of John, who in his First Epistle calls attention to specific commands he had heard from the Lord. These John had always preached. Yet he found it necessary again and again to bring them to the attention of his readers. We remember also that the apostles, filled with the Spirit of Truth promised them by Jesus, spoke as that Spirit directed them; for that Spirit brought to their remembrance *all* that Jesus had told them, and led them into *all* truth.

To stress "doctrine" at the expense of personal faith and the "I-Thou" relationship between the Christian and God, or to stress "doctrine" at the expense of the "proclamation of the Gospel," easily leads to formalism and a "dead" orthodoxy. Likewise, to stress the "I-Thou" relationship at the expense of the "doctrine," or "the proclamation of the Gospel" at the expense of the "doctrine," can lead to a vacuous and baseless enthusiasm. We overcome both dangers by not separating what Scripture does not separate. Perhaps Paul and Luther give us a cue how to keep the two together. Paul writes to the Romans: "*If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine*

*heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*" (Rom. 10: 9, 10)

Thus Paul joins in one statement the confession made by the mouth, which necessarily has doctrinal implications, and faith which proceeds from the heart, which also has doctrinal implications.

We can also learn from Luther. In his explanations of the articles of the Apostolic Creed, Luther begins each explanation with "I believe." This is followed by a "that" clause in which Luther enumerates what the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are and do. But in these "that" clauses Luther injects the "me" and the "my," thus involving the personal faith of the Christian in his confession of faith. Luther says: "I believe that God has made *me* and all creatures. . . ." "I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is *my* Lord, who has redeemed *me*. . . ." "I believe that *I* cannot by *my* own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, *my* Lord, or come to Him, but the Holy Ghost has called *me* by the Gospel," etc. Then Luther speaks of the church: "Even as He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church. . . ." Thus we note in these explanations a confession of the content of the Christian faith, but also stress on the personal relationship of the believer to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

But Paul emphasizes not only the fact of "doctrine." He not only is concerned about transmitting to Timothy as a sacred trust the totality of "doctrine" which he had preached and taught on all his travels. He is concerned also about "sound," that is, "healthy, wholesome, true, right," doctrine (1 Tim. 1:10; 2 Tim. 4:3; Titus 1:9; Titus 2:1). His doctrine (2 Tim. 3:10) is the "doctrine of God, our Savior" (Titus 2:10). It is the "doctrine" which is "according to godliness" (Titus 2:10), that is, the doctrine which is in conformity with the Christian faith (see Joachim Jeremias, *Die Briefe an Timotheus und Titus* [Das Neue Testament Deutsch]. Goettingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 1949, p. 35). For that reason Paul calls the "doctrine" "good," that is, faultless and precious, doctrine: "If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained." (1 Tim. 4:6)

But, alas, as there is little interest in our day in "doctrine" as such, there is less interest in the ascertainment of "sound" and "good" doctrine. I must call attention, however, to a notable exception. That exception is the North American Conference on

Faith and Order which convened in Oberlin, Ohio, Sep. 3—10, 1957. There was evident in that conference a genuine interest in the ascertainment of truth and of "sound" and "good" doctrine, as will be granted by anyone who carefully studies the official report, which appeared under the title *The Nature of the Unity We Seek* (St. Louis: The Bethany Press, 1958). What the criteria were for Paul in determining what "sound" and "good" doctrine is, we noted above. It is the Christological interpretation of the Old Testament, it is the Gospel which he had received from the Lord Jesus, and it is the words of Jesus. In our day we would merely say: It is the Holy Scriptures of the Old and the New Testament, with the constant accent on the article of justification by faith.

The Lutheran Church, and in our country particularly the synods affiliated in the Synodical Conference, have sometimes been faulted because of their concern for "sound" and "good" "doctrine." Prof. Hermann Sasse's observation is relevant at this point. In one of his letters ("The Problem of the Confessions in World Lutheranism," p. 108) he writes: "If the orthodox leaders in the fourth century had been more concerned about evangelizing than about defining Scripturally the nature of Christ, they might have done more evangelizing, but they would have lost the Gospel, whose heart and center is Christ, who is both God and man in one person."

Similarly, Lutheranism in the sixteenth century had to take most seriously the concept of "doctrine" and "pure" doctrine. For the leaders of the Lutheran Church in that period it was a most serious matter so to state their teaching that they could with a good conscience face the judgment seat of Christ. And so it was in the seventeenth century, that period which is stigmatized by many as "the age of dead orthodoxy." So it has been in the history of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod. This we need to recognize with humble gratitude to God and without any Pharisaic pride. But this concern of our church also means that we need constantly to examine "doctrine" in the light of Scripture. There is no other infallible authority in Lutheranism or outside of Lutheranism which is capable of determining with finality the purity and rightness of any aspect of the divine doctrine except the Holy Scriptures. Nor can any aspect of doctrine be valid if it cannot be demonstrated and supported Scripturally. What an obligation therefore also for our church constantly to examine its teaching with reference to its Scripturalness!

But, now, what is the *content* of divine doctrine? What is the content of the "faith" of which Jude speaks when he refers to "the faith once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 3) and when he admonishes his readers: "Beloved, build up yourselves on your

most holy faith"? (Jude 20). What is the "truth," a term so often used by John in his epistles, as when he writes: "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in the truth"? (3 John 4). What is that "Word" of which Paul tells Timothy that he should preach it in season and out of season, and that he should (surely with that "Word") reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine? (2 Tim. 4:2). For it seems obvious that these terms, "doctrine," "faith," "truth," and even "Word," are closely related in meaning and that in the passages referred to they suggest a specific and well-known content which must be preached, taught, and guarded against error. Therefore we ask: What, then, is "the doctrine," or "the faith," or "the truth," or "the Word"? What is its scope and extent, what is its goal and purpose?

Since "the doctrine" comes from God, it deals with matters and events which reflect the greatness of God, who makes Himself known in the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures. It deals with matters which transcend and even defy human thought and understanding. It deals with matters that to the human mind are incredible and foolish. Scriptural doctrine reaches back to the timeless ages of eternity before the foundation of the world, and it reaches forward to the timeless ages when there will be a new heaven and a new earth. It tells that the Father loved His Son "before the foundation of the world" (John 17:24). It tells that the Lamb without blemish and without spot, by whose precious blood we are redeemed, was foreordained, that is, destined "before the foundation of the world" to become man's Savior (1 Peter 1:19, 20). It tells that God "has chosen us in Him [in Christ] before the foundation of the world that we should be holy and blameless before Him" (Eph. 1:4). This doctrine tells us that God created all things in heaven and on earth, all things visible and invisible, the hugest mountain ranges and the tiniest particle known to the physicist but not visible through the lens of the most powerful microscope. It tells also of the existence of invisible principalities and powers and leaderships and dominions which surround man, but over which Christ triumphed and which He will at last consign to eternal darkness. But Scriptural doctrine tells, in particular, of God's Son, whom the Father sent into the world to redeem sinful mankind, and of the manner in which God reconciled the world unto Himself and how He justifies sinners. Scriptural doctrine, therefore, has as its heart and center Jesus Christ come into the flesh, and the salvation wrought by Him for man.

We can never speak too often and too eloquently about Jesus Christ. All we have to do when we think that we have exhausted what might be said about Him is to reread and restudy the great

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Christological passages in Scripture, such as John 1:1-18; Eph. 1:19-23; Phil. 2:6-11; Col. 1:12-20; Hebr. 1:1—2:18; 1 Tim. 3:16; 1 Tim. 2:4-6; and many other passages, not overlooking the Messianic Psalms and the Messianic portions in Isaiah and other prophets. For who is Jesus Christ?

He is, summarily stated, the Alpha and Omega of the Scriptures. He is the Mediator of all of creation, the Mediator of redemption, and the Consummator of the universe. He was destined by the Father before the foundation of the world to become the Lamb of God which would take away the sin of the world. He was foretold by the prophets in words and symbols. His conception and birth was announced by God through His chosen messenger, an angel. He was identified by John the Baptist as the Lamb of God and the Son of God. The Father, on two occasions, declared Him to be His beloved Son, and as God's Son He was convincingly attested through His resurrection from the dead. He was feared by demons, worshiped and served by angels, believed on by His disciples; taken up in glory: the Victor over death and devil; the second Adam; superior to the Law, to Abraham, to Moses, to the Aaronic priesthood, to John the Baptist, to the temple; the one true Messiah as opposed to all false Jewish Messiahs; the Savior and Redeemer; the Founder of the church; the Ruler of the universe; the King of kings and Lord of lords; the Judge to come; the Image of God; God Incarnate; God with the Father and Spirit. Only He could say, as Augustine reminds us: "Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matt. 11:28)

Yet however important it is that He declared for us the Father and told man of the Father's love for a fallen world, that revelation by Him is transcended by what He did. For in Him God reconciled the world unto Himself. "He is the Propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world." "By one offering He perfected forever them that are sanctified." "And this is His commandment: We should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He [Christ] gave us commandment." (1 John 3:23)

But all that Christ did for our salvation, Paul comprehends under what we term the article of justification by faith without the deeds of the Law. Paul defines this article for us especially in his epistles to the Romans and Galatians, but it is present everywhere in Scripture. It permeates all of Scripture, and so we call it the central article of Christian doctrine. It is that article which holds all other articles of Christian doctrine together. Of this article the Formula of Concord says:

This article concerning justification by faith . . . is the chief



article in the entire Christian doctrine, without which no poor conscience can have any firm consolation or can truly know the riches of the grace of Christ, as Dr. Luther also has written:

"If this only article remains pure on the battle field, the Christian Church also remains pure and in goodly harmony and without any sects; but if it does not remain pure, it is not possible that any error or fanatical spirit can be resisted." (*Sol. Decl.* III, 6; Triglot, 917)

Luther calls this article elsewhere "the teacher and chief, the Lord, ruler, judge over all kinds of doctrines." A Lutheran bishop recently wrote about this article:

This article, whose roots lie in the Trinitarian dogma and in the message of both the Old and New Testament, certainly is not an article of faith among many others, like one green tree among many green trees in the forest. It is rather that tree which makes green all trees in the forest of articles of faith, that which vitalizes and determines all articles of faith because it makes audible to mankind the heartbeat of God in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit. (Bishop Hermann Dietzfelbiger, *Informationsblatt für die Gemeinden in den Niederdeutschen Lutherischen Landeskirchen* [September 1, 1956], p. 260)

It is this article which constitutes the heart and center of our Lutheran Symbols from the Augsburg Confession to the Formula of Concord.

But this teaching justification by faith without the deeds of the Law not only brings about peace with God, it also becomes in the hearts of those who individually have been justified by God the great motive power for a life lived in accord with God's will. Those who have once tasted the love of God in Christ will also love the brethren. Having become newborn children through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, they also apply to themselves and seek to conform to all the directives which God supplies in His doctrine regarding the relation of parents to children, children to parents, spouses to each other, employers to employees, citizens toward the rulers of the state. They know that, having been baptized into Christ and having put on Christ, "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female," for they are "all one in Christ Jesus" (Gal. 3:28). There are no color and racial lines. They are eager also to do all in their power to evangelize the world and to that end to support the church with their time and gifts and talents. Thus divine doctrine, and the acceptance of divine doctrine with all its many facets, never becomes for Christians who are alive in Christ a mere set of doctrinal formulations subscribed to and believed, but a powerful dynamic for a consecrated life of holiness and service to their fellow men.

But this consecrated life here on earth is for Christians only the prelude to that life in eternity where they will join the great hosts of prophets, apostles, martyrs, and saints and sing eternal hallelujahs to the Lamb that was slain and has redeemed mankind by His blood, and to Him who sits upon the throne.

#### IV. The Communication of Divine Doctrine

When we are born of God through the washing of Holy Baptism and thus become His children, we enjoy all the blessings and privileges which Jesus gained for us. We have forgiveness, life, and salvation. We have confidence to enter into the heavenly sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way which He opened for us through His flesh. Whatever we ask the Father in Jesus' name, He will grant us. If we sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the Righteous. If our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart. Though we are now the children of God, it does not yet appear what we shall be. But we know that when He appears, we shall be like Him; we shall see Him as He is. And when He returns in glory, He will raise our lowly and corruptible bodies to be like His glorious body. We shall then throughout eternity partake of the heavenly manna and drink of the fountain of living water forevermore.

Nevertheless, as children of God we enjoy not only great and wonderful blessings, but we also assume great responsibilities. Throughout our life it must be our aim to glorify, to praise, and to thank God, the Giver of all good gifts. Here we are to follow the example of Jesus Himself, who consistently glorified His heavenly Father in His prayers and His actions. Paul directs us: "Glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's" (1 Cor. 6:20). Having reminded his readers how they were to use God's gifts, Peter closes on the note: "That God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion forever and ever, Amen" (1 Peter 4:11). But we are to glorify God also in the interest of our fellow men. Peter tells us: "Maintain good conduct among the Gentiles so that, in case they speak against you as wrongdoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation." (1 Peter 2:12 RSV)

Furthermore, we are to testify to, to witness to, to confess and not to deny, the Gospel and the Lord Jesus Christ. We are to be able at all times wholeheartedly to say with Paul: "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth" (Rom. 1:16). This same Paul appeals to Timothy: "Be not ashamed then of testifying to our Lord" (2 Tim. 1:8). The Lord Jesus Himself commends the church in Pergamos: "Thou holdest fast My name and hast not denied

My faith" (Rev. 2:13). He likewise commends the church in Philadelphia: "Thou hast kept My Word and hast not denied My name" (Rev. 3:8). That the Lord Jesus is most seriously intent that His disciples confess and not deny Him, we gather from His saying: "Whosoever therefore shall confess Me before men, him will I confess also before My Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny Me before men, him will I also deny before My Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 10:32, 33). John warns in his First Epistle: "Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father" (1 John 2:22, 23). In passing we note that not only some churches deny Jesus Christ as the Christ, the Son of God, and the Savior of the world, but that this is done also in the ritualistic ceremonies of many fraternal societies. These ritualistic ceremonies deny Him frequently not by default but by design, since they do not wish to offend those who regard Jesus of Nazareth a false Messiah. We need always to bear in mind that men worship idols if they worship a god other than the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

But Christians should also give an account and make a defense of their faith when this is challenged and questioned. Peter tells us: "Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you" (1 Peter 3:15). Paul instructs Titus: "In your teaching show integrity, gravity, and sound speech that cannot be censured, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say of us" (Titus 2:7, 8 RSV). We are also to bear in mind that a Christian must be concerned to guard and preserve the faith. Paul writes: "Guard the truth that has been entrusted to you by the Holy Spirit who dwells within us" (2 Tim. 1:14 RSV); "Hold firm to the sure Word as taught." (Titus 1:9 RSV)

Christians must be willing also to suffer for the truth. "Take your share of suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus" (2 Tim. 2:3). To the Philippians Paul writes: "For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in Him but also suffer for His sake, engaged in the same conflict which you saw and now hear to be mine" (Phil. 1:29, 30). From prison Paul writes Timothy: "Watch thou in all things; endure afflictions" (2 Tim. 4:5). Paul did not hesitate to tell those early converts in Asia: "We must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God." (Acts 14:22)

Christians are, furthermore, commanded to announce and proclaim to all the world the praises, that is, the great and mighty acts of God who called them by the Gospel out of darkness into His marvelous light. Though they are a chosen race, a royal priest-

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hood, a holy nation, God's own people, the new Israel, they are not to regard themselves as a kind of closed-membership organization or secret society composed of God's elite. They are not to be a community living by themselves in isolation from the rest of the world. They are rather to be God's messengers, God's angels, God's ambassadors, God's apostles to all people in the world, ringing the changes on the theme: "Unto you is born a Savior, Jesus Christ, the Lord. He was crucified. He died. But God raised Him up from the dead, and He lives forever. In Him God reconciled the world to Himself. You, too, were reconciled to God through Christ. Believe in Him, and you will be saved." This is the greatest responsibility and task of the church and of every Christian. For this we plan and pray and give and work: to proclaim throughout the world through pastors, missionaries, over radio and TV, the great and mighty acts of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

But Christians should not only glorify God, witness to the Gospel and to Christ, be prepared at all times to give an account of their faith, suffer for the truth, and proclaim to the world God's mighty acts for the salvation of man. They should also perpetuate the teaching ministry of Jesus.

Jesus Himself taught. He was known as the "Teacher come from God" who made explicit to His disciples the doctrine He had received from the Father. Before He returned to the Father, He commissioned His disciples to "teach them [the peoples of the world] . . . whatsoever I have commanded you" (Matt. 28:20). Paul in particular laid much stress on "teaching," on communicating to others Christian doctrine. Twice in his Epistles to Timothy he calls himself "a preacher and an apostle, and a teacher" (1 Tim. 2:7; 2 Tim. 1:11). Luke records the charge brought against Paul when Paul was seized in the temple after his return from his third journey: "This is the man who is teaching men everywhere against the people and the Law and this place" (Acts 21:28). The last item mentioned by Luke in the Book of Acts regarding Paul's activity in Rome is that "Paul preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ" (Acts 28:31). In two of his epistles, Paul specifically lists "teachers" among the gifts given by the ascended Christ to His church. "God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers . . ." (1 Cor. 12:28). "And His gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, for the equipment of the saints, for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ" (Eph. 4:11, 12). We can therefore appreciate Paul's directives to Timothy: "Command and teach these things" (1 Tim. 4:11); "Teach and urge these duties" (1 Tim. 6:2); "Be

unfailing in patience and in teaching" (2 Tim. 4:2). That teaching was actually done in the apostolic churches we gather from Acts 13:1, where Luke lists as members of the church in Antioch both prophets and "teachers," and from Paul's directive to Timothy: "Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching." (1 Tim. 5:17)

Paul was concerned also that bishops, the chief leaders in the congregations, "be apt to teach," that is, be competent to teach, for twice he singles out this qualification in his Epistles to Timothy. Paul was equally concerned about what was to be taught. "A bishop . . . must hold firm to *the sure Word* as taught, so that he may be able to *give instruction in sound doctrine*" (Titus 1:9). "If anyone teaches otherwise and *does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching which accords with godliness*, he is puffed up with conceit, he knows nothing" (1 Tim. 6:3,4). "Charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine . . . than the divine training that is in faith" (1 Tim. 1:3,4). Why was Paul so concerned that "teachers" teach "sound" doctrine? We discover two reasons. On the one hand, so he writes, "The time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own likings and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander into myths" (2 Tim. 4:3,4). On the other hand, Paul believed it his duty to do all he could that "sound doctrine" would be transmitted to coming generations. Therefore he writes: "What you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also." (2 Tim. 2:2)

What we have just said ought to assure us that the apostles were most eager to carry out the command of the Savior: "Teach them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you" (Matt. 28:19). Under the guidance of the Spirit they sought to proclaim and teach all that Christ had commanded them, and to proclaim and teach it in that sense in which Jesus Himself had proclaimed and taught it. Their further concern was that, since all peoples of the world were to be made disciples, it was their sacred obligation to see to it that individuals were especially prepared and educated to continue the preaching and teaching ministry of Jesus after the passing of the apostles. To this end there needed to be already in the apostolic church pastors and teachers.

When we seek to determine the content, the substance of "doctrine" which was taught in the early apostolic church, we find some clues especially in the Epistle to the Hebrews. The writer of this epistle speaks of the "first principles of God's Word" (Hebr.

5:12) and of "the elementary doctrines of Christ" (Hebr. 6:1). Among these he lists "instruction about ablutions, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment" (Hebr. 6:2). These items he regards to be essential in what he calls "the laying of a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God" (Hebr. 6:1). The writer then exhorts his readers to progress to maturity in Christian knowledge and understanding, and he censures them: "Though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of God's Word" (Hebr. 5:12). The same writer speaks also of a "confession" which his readers had made, most probably at the time when they were baptized. Therefore he encourages them: "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering" (Hebr. 10:23). Thus it appears that already in the early church the fundamental aspects of Christian doctrine had been singled out and compiled in a kind of formal statement. It appears also from Paul's admonition to the Ephesians that they be "no longer children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine" (Eph. 4:14), that Paul assumes the existence of a body of doctrine in which the Ephesian Christians had been instructed. Also from Paul's introduction to his Epistle to Titus, "Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to further the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth" (Titus 1:1), it appears inescapable that Paul is presupposing a substance of Christian doctrine with which those to whom he had brought the Gospel had become acquainted. Paul's concern was to "further their knowledge of the truth." When we recall, finally, as we indicated above, that such terms as "faith," "truth," the combination "truth and faith," and even the bare term "Word" oftentimes parallel the term "doctrine" and refer specifically to what Christians were taught to believe, then it appears that already in the apostolic church there was a body, a substance of divine truth which was "taught" not only by the apostles but also by "teachers" appointed for this special task in the congregations.

At this point misunderstandings can arise and have arisen. The content of divine doctrine is never merely a body of information to be grasped and assimilated by the Christian's intellect, stored away in his memory or his subconscious like most knowledge which we acquire day after day in secular matters. Therefore divine doctrine is not another philosophy, however superior it might be to other philosophies. Nor is divine doctrine a kind of ethical system analogous to other ethical systems. As such it is sometimes regarded. In particular the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount are held aloft by people who have no use whatever for God's revelation in Scripture of Himself and of

His way of salvation. Nor is the unique nature of divine doctrine necessarily inferred from the noble and virtuous character of Bible heroes, saints, and martyrs whose lives some people believe should be imitated for the purpose of gaining God's favor. Divine doctrine, though it comes to us through the mind and understanding, is never mere information or a mere challenge to better moral conduct. Rather, doctrine being "divine," God Himself addresses the person who is brought under the influence of that doctrine. This doctrine uncovers for man the true nature of his being. It reveals to him his sinfulness. It rouses his conscience. It compels him to realize that he can do nothing to save himself from God's fiery anger. But this doctrine—and this is its noblest and sublimest feature—also tells the sinner that in Jesus Christ he is holy and just in the sight of God and an heir of eternal salvation. This doctrine persuades him that it is divine and therefore absolutely authoritative. At the same time it fills him with the power of the Spirit to lay hold on the gracious promises in this doctrine, to rejoice in the proffered forgiveness, to love the brethren, to resist sin, and to tell and teach others about the doctrine he has learned.

The teaching of divine doctrine became a more and more significant factor in the expansion of Christianity following the apostolic period. Catechumens preparing for reception into the church were thoroughly taught the elements of divine doctrine. But even as errors crept into the "pure doctrine" when it was preached, so they also crept into the teaching of that doctrine. In course of time divine doctrine included not only the great articles of the creeds, but also such false and unscriptural teachings as purgatory, invocation of saints, penances, and other commandments and doctrines of men. We owe it to Luther that, having discovered by God's enlightening Spirit that the heart and center of divine doctrine is the sinner's justification by God without any merit in man and purely as a result of God's love and because of the substitutionary suffering and death of Jesus Christ, he set about to have that "pure doctrine" also taught by parents to their children and by pastors and teachers to the laity of the church. To that end Luther wrote his two catechisms, the Small and the Large Catechism. What blessings have come to the church as a result of these catechisms! What an incomparable though brief compend of the chief elements of divine doctrine the Small Catechism contains! Here we have, one should like to say, the purest exhibition of divine doctrine ever gathered in so small a compass!

The very mention of Luther's Small Catechism must evoke in all of us most grateful recollections! Is it an overstatement that

the overwhelming majority in this assembly learned what divine doctrine really is from their instruction in Luther's Small Catechism in confirmation classes, in our schools and Sunday schools? As a result of Luther's great concern for the Christian training of the youth of the church a new day of Christian education dawned on the church. We are among the beneficiaries of that great blessing of God. Soon after our forefathers arrived in this country, they regarded it their sacred duty to establish schools for their children and schools for the education of pastors and teachers. Our forefathers and fathers bore in mind also that their preaching must also be teaching, and so we find that they stressed "doctrinal" sermons and also preached sermons on the Catechism. They also introduced what became known as *Christenlehre*, instruction for Christians in Christian doctrine. In this instruction the entire congregation participated. They also introduced Saturday schools. Later Sunday schools were established and, only a few years ago, vacation Bible schools. In recent years more and more Bible classes have been called into existence for adults of all ages. Some larger Lutheran communities have arranged for Bible institutes. Especially in the last decades our system of parish schools has enjoyed a remarkable growth. In most recent years Lutheran high schools have been built in cities where there are concentrated constituencies of our people. Since 1925 consecrated members of our church conduct a flourishing university at Valparaiso, Ind., which provides for instruction in divine doctrine for men and women of college age. Synod as a synod, that is, as a fellowship of many congregations throughout the country, is supporting two theological seminaries (Springfield, St. Louis) for the theological preparation of pastors, two teachers colleges for the training of men and women teachers in our elementary schools, and almost a dozen colleges where students are prepared for admission to our theological seminary in St. Louis. In addition, our Synod, for ninety years, maintains its own publishing house, whose purpose it is to print and distribute Christian literature which reflects the divine doctrine entrusted to our church. A large number of periodicals, also published by our church, find their way into tens of thousands of homes of our members and provide them with that kind of reading material which strengthens and deepens their knowledge and appreciation of divine doctrine. Through a system of supervision by officials of our Synod, our church makes sincere efforts that we retain and pass on to our children the "sound" doctrine which we have inherited by God's grace from our fathers.

Earlier in one of these essays we called attention to the great and intensive research that is being done also in the area of God's Word, Holy Scripture. We may be certain if this research is done



in the fear of God, and if those who pursue it will at all times place themselves under the Word of God, then God will use the results of these efforts for the benefit of His church. But those of us charged by our church to communicate divine doctrine on the elementary level or secondary level, in our colleges, seminaries, and the university, need always to bear in mind what an eminent Lutheran theologian and professor at Wittenberg, Caspar Loescher, wrote 'way back in 1689 (he was the father of the celebrated and stalwart Lutheran theologian Dr. Valentin Ernst Loescher):

Truly, to convert a single soul to God, is a far nobler work than to create ten thousand masters, several thousand licentiates, or a thousand profoundly educated doctors, whom the most thorough education and learnedness is not able to save.

(Dates of Caspar Loescher: 1636—1718. See Joecher's *Gelehrten-Lexikon* under "Caspar Loescher.")

We indeed need to teach the divine doctrine most thoroughly and to that end employ on all levels the best tools and methods available in our day. But we may do this only with that ultimate goal in view that our pupils, students, and all members of our parishes, great and small, might grow in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ and of His Word, become strengthened in their faith, their love, and their hope, and that they, too, acquire that Christian assurance and joyous conviction which only the Holy Spirit can create through the Word of Scripture. To this assurance John in his First Epistle gives expression in the last three of his many "we know." These three "we know" read:

*We know* that anyone born of God does not sin [that is, does not sin willfully], but He [Jesus] who was born of God keeps him, and the evil one does not touch him.

*We know* that we are of God, and the whole world is in the power of the evil one [that is, the devil. What a challenge to proclaim the Gospel in all the world!].

*We know* that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding to know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life. (1 John 5:18-20)

With John's assurance of triumph and victory in our hearts and on our lips may we continue to carry on the great work entrusted by God to our Synod and to each of us.

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(Officers and Representatives Who Registered)

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3 — full-time absence, not excused

4 — part-time absence, not excused

## Officers of Synod

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*Hutchinson Circuit:* Rev. Martin Helmer; Mr. Wayne Iorger.  
*Great Bend Circuit:* Rev. A. C. Gottberg; Mr. William Stueder.  
*Independence Circuit:* Rev. W. T. Niermeier; Mr. Robert Newkirk.  
*Lincoln Circuit:* Rev. W. A. Honig; Mr. Leland Wangerin.  
*Ludell Circuit:* Rev. Delmer Brack; Mr. Gene Domsch.  
*Dodge City Circuit:* Rev. W. T. Goehring; Mr. David W. Taylor.  
*Advisory Pastors:* Prof. G. A. Kuhlmann.  
*Teachers:* Mr. Fred Kauffeld; Mr. Robert Degner.

**MANITOBA AND SASKATCHEWAN DISTRICT***President:* Rev. L. W. Koehler

*Assiniboine Valley Circuit:* Rev. Eldor Bruss; Mr. Alvin Maier.  
*North Saskatchewan (East and West):* Rev. Karl Krahenbil; Mr. C. Wennekamp.  
*Qu'Appelle Valley Circuit:* Rev. Leander Arndt; Mr. Gilbert Unverricht.

*Soo Line Circuit:* Rev. Herman Bickel; Mr. Lawrence Boesch.<sup>3</sup>  
*Swift Current Circuit:* Rev. Gerhard Pera; Mr. Anton Sauer.  
*Winnipeg Circuit:* Rev. A. E. Koslowsky; Mr. John Mayer.

### MICHIGAN DISTRICT

*President:* Rev. W. Harry Krieger

*Circuit 1:* Rev. Walter W. Oetting; Mr. John Hamel.  
*Circuit 2:* Rev. H. M. Heidenreich; Mr. Ulysses G. Stoeffler.  
*Circuit 3:* Rev. Victor G. Meyer; Mr. Adrian Foreman.  
*Circuit 4:* Rev. Richard J. Scholz; Mr. Albert Bergh.  
*Circuit 5:* Rev. Frederick W. Jagow; Mr. Robert O. Schoenherr.  
*Circuit 6:* Rev. Charles Boerger; Mr. Paul J. Hopp.  
*Circuit 7:* Rev. William J. Hassold; Mr. Albert W. Frank.  
*Circuit 8:* Rev. John Baumgaertner; Mr. Vernon Begick.  
*Circuit 9:* Rev. Lorenz F. Weber; Mr. Richard Pickelmann.  
*Circuit 10:* Rev. Carl Schinnerer; Mr. Franklin Rothfuss.  
*Circuit 11:* Rev. Philip Schroeder; Mr. Donald H. Koeppe.  
*Circuit 12:* Rev. Herbert M. Daenzer; Mr. Arthur Kiesel.  
*Circuit 13:* Rev. Vernold W. Aurich; Mr. Homer E. Rueger.  
*Circuit 14:* Rev. Albert P. Knoll; Mr. William Hochleitner.  
*Circuit 15:* Rev. August H. Klenke; Dr. Russell A. Hawley.  
*Circuit 16:* Rev. Howard Allwardt; Mr. George Pulford.  
*Circuit 17:* Rev. Edwin H. Roehrs; Mr. Edward C. Betker.  
*Circuit 18:* Rev. Otto F. Krupski; Mr. Bertram Kamprath.  
*Circuit 19:* Rev. Richard L. Schlecht; Mr. Walter Kuhlman.  
*Circuit 20:* Rev. Philip Janz; Mr. Oscar Sattelmeier.  
*Circuit 21:* Rev. Carl E. Nietzsche; Mr. Theo. Anchell.  
*Circuit 22:* Rev. Frederick A. Kolch; Mr. Erwin H. Baehr.  
*Circuit 23:* Rev. Edwin G. Ripke; Mr. Gilbert Zitzelsberger.  
*Advisory Pastors:* Rev. Alfred T. Scheips; Rev. Charles M. Looker;  
 Dr. Andrew Zeile; Rev. David L. Voorhees.  
*Teachers:* Mr. Paul N. Seibel; Mr. Gerold Becker; Mr. Walter E. Senne;  
 Mr. Theodore W. Schriefer; Mr. Chester L. Platt; Mr. W. M. Graeb-  
 ner; Mr. William W. Richert; Mr. Ruben F. Kamprath; Mr. Truman  
 W. Leuthauser; Mr. Roy C. Krause; Mr. Walther H. Moeller.

### MINNESOTA DISTRICT

*President:* Rev. E. H. Stahlke

*South East Conference, Root River Circuit:* Rev. Louis O. Bittner; Mr.  
 Wilton Klawiter.  
*South East Conference, Zumbro Circuit:* Rev. Rodney W. Riese; Mr. Ray-  
 mond Kehren.  
*South East Conference, Second Circuit:* Rev. Paul Friedrich; Mr. John  
 Lawrenz.<sup>2</sup>  
*South Central Conference, First Circuit:* Rev. Guenther W. Malling;  
 Mr. Elmer Dobberstein.  
*South Central Conference, Second Circuit:* Rev. Florus C. Schmidt;  
 Mr. Herbert E. Becker.<sup>3</sup>  
*South Central Conference, Third Circuit:* Rev. Paul E. Krause; Mr. Her-  
 man Tonn.  
*South West Conference, First Circuit:* Rev. Herman D. Haak; Mr. Rich-  
 ard Hansen.  
*South West Conference, Second Circuit:* Rev. R. W. Rottmann; Mr. Al-  
 bert Voehle.  
*Head o' Lakes Duluth Circuit:* Rev. Walter H. Vathauer; Mr. Edgar  
 Felten.  
*Head o' Lakes Iron Range Circuit:* Rev. Eyrich E. Hansen; Mr. Lyle  
 Stoefer.  
*North Minnetonka Conference, Second Circuit:* Rev. John Rolf;<sup>3</sup> Mr.  
 Harry Maser.<sup>3</sup>

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*North Minnetonka Conference, St. Paul Circuit:* Rev. C. J. Nuernberg;  
 Mr. Milan Olsen.  
*North Minnetonka Conference, Third Circuit:* Rev. M. T. Stroschein;  
 Mr. Walter Gildemeister.  
*South Minnetonka Conference, Minneapolis Circuit:* Rev. Frederick  
 Geske; Mr. William Limpert.  
*South Minnetonka Conference, Greater Minneapolis Circuit:* Rev. Leon-  
 ard Thaemert; Mr. John C. Watkins.  
*South Minnetonka Conference, Suburban Lakes Circuit:* Rev. Arthur  
 Klemp; Mr. Albert Kruse.  
*South Minnetonka Conference, Anoka Circuit:* Rev. Arnold Affeldt;  
 Mr. Paul Heim.  
*South Minnetonka Conference, Fifth Circuit:* Rev. John Melchert; Mr.  
 Otto Templin.  
*South Minnetonka Conference, Sixth Circuit:* Rev. Arnold H. Fellwock;  
 Mr. Harvey Goebel.  
*South Minnetonka Conference, Seventh Circuit:* Rev. H. J. Malotky;  
 Mr. Fred Schmidt.  
*South Minnetonka Conference, Eighth Circuit:* Rev. William Timm;  
 Mr. Emil Yerks.  
*Yellow Bank Conference, First Circuit:* Rev. Kurt H. Mueller; Mr. Ger-  
 hardt Schwandt.  
*Yellow Bank Conference, Second Circuit:* Rev. Walter Going; Mr. E. G.  
 Rosen.  
*Yellow Bank Conference, Third Circuit:* Rev. Oliver Schultz; Mr. Eli  
 Walter.  
*East Park Region Conference, First Circuit:* Rev. Paul Affeldt; Mr. Loy  
 Pfeiffer.  
*East Park Region Conference, Third Circuit:* Rev. Paul H. Brill; Mr. Eu-  
 gene Krause.  
*North Park Region Conference, First Circuit:* Rev. Orville Poellot;  
 Mr. Arthur Ross.  
*North Park Region Conference, Second Circuit:* Rev. Herman E. Sieving;  
 Mr. Arthur Ross (see N.P.R., First).  
*North Park Region Conference, Third Circuit:* Rev. Clarence Uetzmann;  
 Mr. Morton Davis.  
*West Park Region Conference, First Circuit:* Rev. Armin G. Mueller;  
 Mr. Merlin Nordquist.  
*West Park Region Conference, Second Circuit:* Rev. Karl Stroming; Mr.  
 Wendell H. Long.  
*West Park Region Conference, Third Circuit:* Rev. Martin Beck; Mr. Les-  
 ter Schneeberger.  
*Advisory Pastors:* Rev. Edgar J. Otto, D.D.; Rev. Otto H. Lottes; Rev.  
 Ernest J. A. Marxhausen.  
*Teachers:* Mr. George Heckmann; Mr. Milbert F. Noenning; Mr. Walter  
 T. Dreyer; Mr. Armin C. Schmidt.

#### MONTANA DISTRICT

*President:* Rev. Paul M. Freiburger

*Central Circuit:* Rev. Emerson T. Leckband.  
*Divide Circuit:* Mr. Al Kraft.  
*Eastern Circuit:* Mr. Raymond Olson.  
*Southern Circuit:* Rev. Albert W. Siebert.  
*Western Circuit:* Mr. Morton Wood.

#### NORTH DAKOTA DISTRICT

*President:* Rev. L. K. Meyer

*South Central-New Rockford Circuit:* Rev. Harold V. Huber; Mr. F.  
 Fischer.  
*Minot Circuit:* Rev. William H. Munding; Mr. Otto Hauf.

*Missouri Slope Circuit:* Rev. Adolph Brand; Mr. Henry D. Henke.  
*Southeast Circuit:* Rev. Herbert C. Mueller; Mr. Phil. Bartz.  
*Bottineau-Devil's Lake Circuit:* Rev. LaVern L. Brack; Mr. Al Albrecht.  
*Hillsboro-Grafton Circuit:* Rev. John D. Fritz; Mr. Ben Holt.  
*Advisory Pastors:* Rev. W. O. Ferber; Rev. F. A. Rubbert.  
*Teacher:* Mr. Lester A. Gottschalk.

#### NORTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT

*President:* Rev. Lloyd H. Goetz

*Circuit 1:* Rev. Harold Brauer; Mr. Harvey Polzin.  
*Circuit 2:* Rev. Harold Parsch; Mr. Harlan Kirchner.  
*Circuit 3:* Rev. John Henry Nau; Mr. Max Parsons.  
*Circuit 4:* Rev. Gustav M. Krueger; Mr. Robert L. Gast.  
*Circuit 5:* Rev. Wm. F. Ludwig; Mr. Jullus Kell.  
*Circuit 6:* Rev. Frank J. Schultz; Mr. Richard Hartwig.  
*Circuit 7:* Rev. William Christian; Mr. Robert G. Andre.  
*Circuit 8:* Rev. Edmund G. Schedler; Mr. John Padrutt.  
*Circuit 9:* Rev. Ernest A. Schutz; Mr. Charles Holdorf.  
*Advisory Pastor:* Rev. Alvin T. Klug.  
*Teachers:* Mr. Bernhard Dobberfuhl; Mr. Paul Obst.

#### NORTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT

*President:* Rev. A. H. Werfelmann, D. D.

*Circuit 1:* Rev. C. Krog; Mr. Walter Stocker.  
*Circuit 2:* Rev. Ray Miller; Mr. Arthur Wellman.  
*Circuit 3:* Rev. P. Gerth; Mr. Adolph Penno.  
*Circuit 4:* Rev. Allen H. Fedder; Mr. George Hinrichs.  
*Circuit 5:* Rev. Elmer Grotelueschen; Mr. Fred Kettner.  
*Circuit 6:* Rev. Herman C. Noll; Mr. Warren Pennington.  
*Circuit 7:* Rev. Gotthold Elbert; Mr. Adolph Schwarz.  
*Circuit 8:* Rev. A. Schroeder; Mr. Fred Schmider.  
*Circuit 9:* Rev. R. C. Schulz; Mr. Leslie A. Jenzen.  
*Circuit 10:* Rev. A. E. Bohlmann; Mr. William A. Schmidtke.  
*Circuit 11:* Rev. Herbert Stelter; Mr. Herbert Behrens.  
*Circuit 12:* Rev. L. Going; Mr. Roy Knecht.  
*Circuit 13:* Rev. Edwin C. Beversdorf; Mr. John Krohmer.  
*Circuit 14:* Rev. Herbert Kohn; Mr. Ed. Kierbs.  
*Circuit 15:* Rev. E. J. Sedory; Mr. Martin Ahrens.  
*Circuit 16:* Rev. Theo. Melinat; Mr. Robert Hopp, Sr.  
*Circuit 17:* Rev. Otto Thieme; Mr. David Horn.  
*Circuit 18:* Rev. W. W. Wilk; Mr. Eldon Miller.  
*Circuit 19:* Rev. H. J. Teske; Mr. Roland Rudolph.  
*Circuit 20:* Rev. A. Breihan; Mr. Robert Corniels.  
*Circuit 21:* Rev. H. F. Bohlmann; Mr. Robert C. Meyer.  
*Advisory Pastors:* Rev. A. E. Going; Rev. Henry Meyer; Rev. R. Mohrhardt; Rev. M. Piehler.  
*Teachers:* Mr. Elmer Arnst; Mr. M. E. Lorenz; Mr. R. C. Engebrecht; Mr. C. J. Gehrs; Mr. A. Hitzemann; Mr. R. Hasemann; Mr. R. Nordbrock; Mr. E. K. Eckert; Mr. A. E. Christian.

#### NORTHERN NEBRASKA DISTRICT

*President:* Rev. F. A. Niedner

*Circuit 1-N:* Rev. Frederick Falkenroth; Mr. Bill Woolery.  
*Circuit 1-S:* Rev. Ernest J. Dreyer; Mr. Arnold Schrein.  
*Circuit 2:* Rev. Otto H. Wittig; Mr. Gustave Kiihne.  
*Circuit 3:* Rev. E. J. Nickel; Mr. Willard Diederichs.  
*Circuit 4:* Rev. Erwin J. Bernthal; Mr. Ralph Stark.  
*Circuit 5:* Rev. Marcus T. Duchow; Mr. Robert Fehnestock.

*Circuit 6:* Rev. Walter Seefeldt; Mr. Elvin Harley.  
*Circuit 7:* Rev. A. Steven Gedwillo; Mr. William Horst.  
*Circuit 8:* Rev. Edward L. Borgmeyer; Mr. Henry Buss.  
*Circuit 9:* Rev. Roland Huber; Mr. J. J. Foos.  
*Circuit 10:* Rev. Nolan Obermueller; Mr. P. J. Owens.  
*Circuit 11:* Rev. Rudolph Weiser; Mr. Lawrence Huelle.<sup>3</sup>  
*Advisory Pastor:* Rev. M. L. Doctor.  
*Teachers:* Mr. George Bluma; Mr. Erwin Kohtz.

**NORTHWEST DISTRICT**

*President:* Rev. Carl H. Bensene

*Circuit 1:* Rev. Emil E. Hellwege; Mr. Walter Schmidt, Sr.  
*Circuit 2:* Rev. Erich O. Eichmann; Mr. Herbert Tuebner.  
*Circuit 3:* Rev. Walter A. Luedtke; Dr. L. G. Soderholm.  
*Circuit 4:* Rev. Ernest G. Riedel; Mr. Howard Ahlskog.  
*Circuit 5:* Rev. Roland A. Langbecker; Mr. Carl Kappen.  
*Circuit 6:* Rev. Luther M. Westerkamp; Mr. Ewald Weinz.  
*Circuit 7:* Rev. Eugene R. Schramm; Mr. Harry Carlington.  
*Advisory Pastor:* Rev. Martin W. Lankow.  
*Teachers:* Mr. Arthur Schoennauer; Mr. George F. Shoemaker.

**OKLAHOMA DISTRICT**

*President:* Rev. Alfred E. Behrend

*Panhandle Circuit:* Rev. Waldo W. Bentrup; Mr. Otto Nordlinger.  
*Enid Circuit:* Rev. Earl F. Krupp; Mr. John Breitenkamp.<sup>2</sup>  
*Kingfisher Circuit:* Rev. Adelbert C. Oesch; Mr. W. G. Raetz.  
*Lawton Circuit:* Rev. Donald V. Hafemann; Mr. Henry Graumann.  
*Ponca City Circuit:* Rev. Louis Ulmer; Mr. Earl W. Kraeger.  
*Miami Circuit:* Rev. Gilbert C. Becker; Mr. Raymond Erdwin.<sup>2</sup>  
*Tulsa Circuit:* Rev. Walmar W. Frank; Mr. Carl Herrling.  
*Oklahoma City Circuit:* Rev. Paul H. Heitmann; Mr. Herbert Kuhlman.  
*Teacher:* Mr. Walter Bartels.

**ONTARIO DISTRICT**

*President:* Rev. W. O. Rathke

*Circuit 1:* Rev. Robert L. Meyer; Mr. Louis Debus.<sup>3</sup>  
*Circuit 2:* Rev. Roy Knoll; Mr. Laverne Neeb.  
*Circuit 3:* Rev. Carl Lantz; Mr. Ligaard Jeppesen.  
*Circuit 4:* Rev. John Korcok; Mr. Walter Winges.  
*Circuit 5:* Rev. Luther Schroeder; Mr. Emerson Ruppel.<sup>3</sup>  
*Advisory Pastor:* Rev. Fred Gumz.<sup>3</sup>

**SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT**

*President:* Rev. Phil. Mueller

*Circuit 1:* Rev. C. J. Schleicher; Mr. Otto Beyer.  
*Circuit 2:* Rev. F. A. Rehwaldt; Mr. Alvin Von Wald.  
*Circuit 3:* Rev. Robert Uttecht; Mr. Adolph Hanson.  
*Circuit 4:* Rev. Raymond P. Albrecht; Mr. Herbert Mettler.  
*Circuit 5:* Rev. Gustav O. Bohn; Mr. Howard Napier.  
*Circuit 6:* Rev. R. H. Marquardt; Mr. G. W. Eisenbraun.  
*Circuit 7:* Rev. John H. Jungemann; Mr. Martin Gienapp.  
*Circuit 8:* Rev. Carl Stapf; Mr. Walter Kraft.  
*Circuit 9:* Rev. Rudolph Hildebrandt; Mr. Donald Piroutek.  
*Advisory Pastors:* Rev. Walter Nitschke; Rev. Ellis Nieting.  
*Teachers:* Mr. Emil Kriewaldt.

**SOUTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT***President:* Rev. Herbert W. Baxmann

*Circuit 1:* Rev. Karl Barth; Mr. Lee L. Donovan.  
*Circuit 2:* Rev. Victor Selle; Mr. Fred Bultman.  
*Circuit 3:* Rev. John Johnson; Mr. Oscar Schwengel.  
*Circuit 4:* Rev. Karl Schulz; Mr. Norbert Kuester.  
*Circuit 5:* Rev. Arthur Schedler; Mr. Ernest Munsche.  
*Circuit 6:* Rev. Martin Schneider; Mr. Neal Schroeder.  
*Circuit 7:* Rev. Carl Selle; Mr. Earl Hickethier.  
*Circuit 8:* Rev. Martin Droegemueller; Mr. Albert W. Karow.  
*Circuit 9:* Rev. O. Hoffmann; Dr. Clarence Bergmann.  
*Circuit 10:* Rev. Victor Bartelt; Mr. Arnold Wahlberg.  
*Circuit 11:* Rev. Martin Mueller; Mr. Arthur Olson.  
*Advisory Pastors:* Rev. William T. Eggers; Rev. B. Raabe.  
*Teachers:* Mr. Robert Nieting; Mr. Harold Albers; Mr. Lothar Stolper;  
 Mr. Walmar Handrich; Mr. William Claybaker; Mr. Howard Wendland.

**SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT***President:* Rev. William H. Kohn

*Circuit 1:* Rev. Frederick A. Freed; Mr. William C. L. Rach.  
*Circuit 2:* Rev. Walter V. Roe, Jr.; Mr. Millard A. Taylor.  
*Circuit 3:* Rev. Karl H. Maier; Mr. George Biehl.  
*Circuit 4:* Rev. John C. Roock; Mr. Fred Roggenkamp.  
*Circuit 5:* Rev. Edgar G. Runge; Mr. Ellis I. Sheppard.  
*Advisory Pastors:* Rev. J. A. Hunt; Rev. Paul G. Amt.  
*Teacher:* Mr. F. C. Seevers.

**SOUTHERN DISTRICT***President:* Rev. Edgar Homrighausen

*Circuit A:* Rev. Miles Gebauer; Mr. Ralph Sanders.  
*Circuit B:* Rev. Edward G. Tippin; Mr. John Luecke.  
*Circuit C:* Rev. Edwin L. Coyner; Mr. H. Trepagnier.  
*Circuit D:* Rev. Robert Dittmann; Mr. Carl Walters.  
*Circuit E:* Rev. Luther Loesch; Mr. L. Reinhardt.  
*Circuit F:* Rev. Wm. G. Kennell; Mr. O. Duke.  
*Advisory Pastor:* Rev. Carl Bretscher.  
*Teacher:* Mr. Theo. P. Bussmann.

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT***President:* Rev. Victor L. Behnken

*Circuits 1 and 3:* Rev. Eugene O. Smith; Mr. Harvey Kind.  
*Circuit 2:* Rev. Henry E. Elfman; Mr. Richard Atherton.  
*Circuits 4 and 5:* Rev. Stuart W. Nothnagel; Mr. William Kamrath.  
*Circuits 6 and 7:* Rev. Oswald Mieger; Mr. C. Howard Goepfinger.  
*Circuits 8 and 9:* Rev. E. C. J. Boxdorfer;<sup>2</sup> Mr. W. E. Schulenburg.  
*Circuits 10 and 13:* Rev. A. C. Schaller; Mr. Harold Seabright.  
*Circuit 11:* Rev. W. C. Schnute; Mr. Dario Robinson.  
*Circuit 12:* Rev. Martin Wiersig; Mr. Walter F. Kletke.  
*Circuits 14 and 17:* Rev. A. H. Herkamp; Mr. Ray Schnackenberg.  
*Circuits 15 and 16:* Rev. John C. Jacobsen; Mr. Egon C. Jacob.  
*Advisory Pastors:* Rev. Ronald Goerss; Rev. Toshio Okamoto; Rev. David Stirdivant.  
*Teachers:* Mr. Victor K. Bloch; Mr. Paul O. Ebel; Mr. Philip L. Pohlman;  
 Mr. Edgar P. Firnhaber; Mr. Richard H. Hansen.

**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT**

*President:* Rev. W. T. Janzow

*Circuit 1:* Rev. Eugene C. Guenther; Mr. Walter Fritz.  
*Circuit 2:* Rev. Erwin J. Kolb; Mr. Percy Ruppel.  
*Circuit 3:* Rev. O. H. Schmidt, D.D.; Mr. Harry Muentner.  
*Circuit 4:* Rev. William A. Wenger; Mr. Edward Sluder.  
*Circuit 5:* Rev. Raymond R. A. Krueger; Mr. Carl Streuter.  
*Circuit 6:* Rev. Herman C. Lehenbauer; Mr. Paul Junge.  
*Circuit 7:* Rev. Duncan S. Stevenson; Mr. Carl Lemmerman.  
*Advisory Pastor:* Rev. William F. Wolter.  
*Teachers:* Mr. C. E. Freudenburg; Mr. E. F. Schoenleber.

**SOUTHERN NEBRASKA DISTRICT**

*President:* Rev. H. F. Krohn

*Arapahoe Circuit:* Rev. Joseph Gerken; Mr. Harold Kopf.  
*Beatrice Circuit:* Rev. Walter Landgraf; Mr. Lowell Genrich.  
*Deshler Circuit:* Rev. Edward Werner; Mr. Harry Wittmack.  
*Falls City Circuit:* Rev. Paul W. Sellman; Mr. Henry Guenther.  
*Grand Island Circuit:* Rev. E. W. Bellmann; Mr. Chas. W. Wenke.  
*Hastings Circuit:* Rev. Martin Dreyer; Mr. Wm. Lambrecht.  
*Kearney Circuit:* Rev. Erwin Feyerherm; Mr. Walter Gruhn.  
*Lincoln Circuit:* Rev. Erich Prange; Mr. Charles Reuland.  
*McCook Circuit:* Rev. Rudolph Staehr; Mr. Fred Haase.  
*Ogallala Circuit:* Rev. Alfred A. Saeger; Mr. Ervin Schlake.  
*Seward Circuit:* Rev. Fred Boerger; Dr. H. C. Riggert.  
*Sidney-Cheyenne Circuit:* Rev. Richard Brauer; Mr. Henry Nienhuser.  
*York Circuit:* Rev. Harold Malotky; Mr. Arlin M. Bereuter.  
*Advisory Pastor:* Rev. Waldo J. Werning.  
*Teachers: Group A:* Mr. E. A. Luebke. *Group B:* Mr. E. F. Pflughoeft.  
*Group C:* Mr. William Tegtmeier.  
*Advisory Teacher:* Mr. Paul Steffens.

**TEXAS DISTRICT**

*President:* Rev. Roland Wiederaenders, D.D.

*Circuit 1:* Rev. R. Young; Mr. Glenn Osborn.  
*Circuit 2:* Rev. C. E. Kleber; Mr. Gilbert Pachall.  
*Circuit 3:* Rev. Marcus T. Lang; Mr. Ed. Haseloff.  
*Circuit 4:* Rev. W. Koenig; Mr. Ed. A. Bartsch, Jr.  
*Circuit 5:* Rev. Harold E. Theiss; Mr. Adolph L. Weiss.  
*Circuit 6:* Rev. E. A. Heckmann; Mr. Raymond R. Schrank.  
*Circuit 7:* Rev. G. A. Zoch; Mr. John Seggern.  
*Circuit 8:* Rev. Arnold G. Mueller; Mr. Robert Bubolz.  
*Circuit 9:* Rev. A. A. Walter; Mr. Charles Ranka.  
*Circuit 10:* Rev. A. F. Droegemueller; Mr. Elgin A. Brockman.  
*Circuit 11:* Rev. Fred Pankow;<sup>2</sup> Mr. Vincent Boone.  
*Circuit 12:* Rev. Arthur Kollmeyer; Mr. Spencer R. Twinn.  
*Circuit 13:* Rev. W. Schlecht; Mr. Clifton E. Rawe.  
*Circuit 14:* Rev. Vernon Harley; Mr. Ed. Ziebarth.  
*Advisory Pastor:* Rev. Harry Smith.<sup>2</sup>  
*Teachers:* Mr. Winfred G. Blecke; Mr. Max M. Groeschel; Mr. O. H. Kieschnick; Mr. A. Koepsel; Mr. T. R. Bethke; Mr. E. J. Keuer.

**WESTERN DISTRICT**

*President:* Rev. George W. Wittmer

*Altenburg Circuit:* Rev. E. Boeschen; Mr. Elmer Meyer.  
*California Circuit:* Rev. Ferdinand Reith; Mr. H. G. Gretlein.



*Cape Girardeau Circuit:* Rev. Theodore Schmidt; Mr. Robert F. Gross-  
 heider.  
*Concordia Circuit:* Rev. David Loesch; Mr. Harvey Frerking.<sup>2</sup>  
*East Arkansas-West Tennessee Circuit:* Rev. Erwin Moehring; Mr. Merle  
 J. Hansen.  
*East Tennessee Circuit:* Rev. Herman Scherer; Mr. Roy Schubert.  
*Southwest Missouri Circuit:* Rev. Norbert F. Roschke;<sup>2</sup> Mr. Paul Eye.<sup>2</sup>  
*Iron Mountain Circuit:* Rev. Wilbert E. Greisse; Mr. Herbert Boxdorfer.  
*Kansas City Circuit:* Rev. Howard Barth; Mr. Jack Lakey.  
*St. Louis County North Circuit:* Rev. Franklin Ritthamel; Mr. Clemens  
 Runge.  
*St. Louis County South Circuit:* Rev. Theo. W. Schroeder; Mr. Walter  
 Zimmermann.  
*Northeast Missouri Circuit:* Rev. Adolph J. Becker; Mr. Walter Frohn.  
*St. Charles Circuit:* Rev. Erich Oelschlaeger; Mr. Walter J. Hoffman.  
*North Saint Louis Circuit:* Rev. Lester Charles; Mr. Norman Holle.  
*Northwest Saint Louis Circuit:* Rev. Edwin Fritze; Mr. John Nolting.  
*South St. Louis Circuit:* Rev. John Ott; Mr. Edward Daniel Meier.  
*Southwest St. Louis Circuit:* Rev. Louis Eickhoff; Mr. Vernon Schertel.  
*Sedalia Circuit:* Rev. Ernest H. R. Mueller; Mr. Erhart Kaiser.  
*West Arkansas Circuit:* Rev. Louis Morgall; Mr. Mathew Brown.<sup>3</sup>  
*Washington Circuit:* Rev. Wm. J. Friederichs; Mr. Albert Adam.  
*North Central Circuit:* Rev. Alwin J. Graebner; Mr. Otis Korslund.  
*Springfield Circuit:* Rev. E. H. Koerber; Mr. Wilmer Dillon.  
*Advisory Pastors:* Rev. Oscar A. Bohnert;<sup>2</sup> Rev. William H. Ludwig.  
*Teachers:* Mr. Erich P. Hueschen; Mr. Walter Oldehoeft; Mr. Kermit C.  
 Meyer; Mr. Robert C. Oestreich; Mr. L. G. Groth; Mr. Homer Gruber;  
 Mr. Herbert Toensing; Mr. George A. Albers; Mr. Harold Dunklau;  
 Mr. L. J. Dierker.

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## Tabular Survey

Synodical District	Delegates Present						Delegates Absent					
	Voting			Advisory			Voting		Advisory			
	Pastors	Laymen	Totals	Pres. or V. P.	Pastors	Teachers	Totals	Pastors	Laymen	Pastors	Teachers	Totals
1. Alberta and British Columbia	5	5	10	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
2. Argentina	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
3. Atlantic	16	15	31	1	5	3	9	—	—	—	—	—
4. Brazil	—	2	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5. California and Nevada	11	11	22	1	2	3	6	—	—	—	—	—
6. Central	23	23	46	1	3	11	15	—	—	—	—	—
7. Central Illinois	11	11	22	1	1	3	5	—	—	—	—	—
8. Colorado	9	8	17	1	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	—
9. Eastern	13	13	26	1	1	2	4	—	—	—	—	—
10. English	19	19	38	1	2	2	5	—	—	—	—	—
11. Florida-Georgia	5	5	10	1	3	1	5	—	1	—	—	1
12. Iowa East	10	10	20	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
13. Iowa West	16	16	32	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
14. Kansas	13	13	26	1	1	2	4	—	—	—	—	—
15. Manitoba and Saskatchewan	6	5	11	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1
16. Michigan	23	23	46	1	4	11	16	—	—	—	—	—
17. Minnesota	32	29	61	1	3	4	8	1	2	—	—	3
18. Montana	2	3	5	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
19. North Dakota	6	6	12	1	2	1	4	—	—	—	—	—
20. North Wisconsin	9	9	18	1	1	2	4	—	—	—	—	—
21. Northern Illinois	21	21	42	1	4	9	14	—	—	—	—	—
22. Northern Nebraska	11	10	21	1	1	2	4	—	1	—	—	1
23. Northwest	7	7	14	1	1	2	4	—	—	—	—	—
24. Oklahoma	8	8	16	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
25. Ontario	5	3	8	1	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	3
26. South Dakota	9	9	18	1	2	1	4	—	—	—	—	—
27. South Wisconsin	11	11	22	1	2	6	9	—	—	1	—	1
28. Southeastern	5	5	10	1	2	1	4	—	—	—	—	—
29. Southern	6	6	12	1	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	—
30. Southern California	10	10	20	1	3	5	9	—	—	—	—	—
31. Southern Illinois	7	7	14	1	1	2	4	—	—	—	—	—
32. Southern Nebraska	13	13	26	1	1	4	6	—	—	—	—	—
33. Texas	14	14	28	1	1	6	8	—	—	—	—	—
34. Western	22	21	43	1	2	10	13	—	1	—	—	1
Boards and Committees	—	—	—	—	—	—	112	—	—	—	—	3
General Officials	—	—	—	—	—	—	27	—	—	—	—	1
Boards of Control	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	—
Faculty Members	—	—	—	—	—	—	66	—	—	—	—	1
Totals	378	371	749	34	51	98	406	1	8	2	—	16

## CONVENTION MINUTES

### Opening Service

June 17, Morning

The 44th convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod was opened with a Communion service conducted by the host congregation, St. Paulus of San Francisco. The pastor, Arthur C. Nitz, served as celebrant, assisted by various clergymen of the area. Dr. Clemens Hoopmann of Australia delivered the confessional address on 1 John 1:8, 9. Dr. Oliver Harms, Fourth Vice-President of the Synod, preached the convention sermon on Ps. 96:3: "Declare His Glory." He reminded the worshipers that God Himself gives the command, the promise of blessing, the motivation in the giving of His Son, and the means to "declare His glory among the heathen, His wonders among all people." God help us if we hold back instead of cheerfully accepting the challenge of our day.

### Session 1

June 17, Afternoon

#### *Opening Devotion*

President J. W. Behnken in the opening devotion called attention to two lessons which the convention should learn from Is. 54: 1, 2. We must lengthen the cords by an aggressive missionary outreach to our world, and we must strengthen the stakes by driving them ever deeper into the inspired Scriptures. Pastor C. F. Baase, President of the Alberta-British Columbia District, served as liturgist.

#### *Organization*

The Registration Committee reported 575 voting members and 367 advisory members and guests present. A quorum having been established, President Behnken declared the convention in session. Pastor Herbert Mueller of Dundee, Ill., was appointed assistant secretary.

#### *Opening Ceremonies*

President Arthur Nitz of the California and Nevada District introduced His Honor, Mayor Christopher, who welcomed the delegates and guests to the city. President H. J. Rippe of the Atlantic District replied. After Dr. Behnken had read a telegram from President Eisenhower, the assembly stood for the singing of "God Bless Our Native Land." The chairman welcomed visitors who had come from overseas and reported on official greetings received from various groups.

*Dr. Arnold H. Grumm*

The President read a moving letter from Vice-President Arnold H. Grumm, in which he reported to the convention that he is suffering from lung cancer. After paying tribute to this servant of the Synod, Dr. Behnken led the convention in prayer in his behalf. It was suggested that a copy of the prayer be forwarded to Dr. Grumm. Another suggestion was offered that Dr. Grumm be declared an Honorary Vice-President. Dr. Behnken ruled that this could be done after the elections had taken place.

*President's Report*

In his presidential report Dr. Behnken listed the various vacancies on boards and committees that were filled by appointment or otherwise, named the servants of the Synod who had passed away during this triennium, reported on the progress toward unity being made within the Synodical Conference, dwelt at length on relations with other Lutheran bodies, and pleaded with the members of the Synod to remain faithful to the truth of Scripture no matter what controversies might lie ahead. He also reported on various trips to different parts of the world that had been taken by him or by his representatives in the interest of the Synod.

*Convention Agenda*

Since no objection was offered, the convention program submitted by Dr. Behnken was adopted.

*Addresses of Greeting*

Dr. Clemens Hoopmann of Australia and President Oscar Naumann of the Wisconsin Synod briefly addressed the convention.

*Official Editors*

The editors of the *Lutheran Witness* and the *Lutheraner* were appointed as official editors.

*Public Relations Resolution*

The convention adopted a resolution (*Today's Business* 93) channeling all public announcements and interviews through the Public Relations Committee.

*Primary for President*

Ballots were distributed for the write-in primary for the office of president.

*Ministers for a Ministering Church*

A filmstrip and panel discussion explored the problem of producing more ministers for a rapidly growing church.

After various announcements the session closed with the hymn "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord," the Lord's Prayer, and the Apostolic Blessing.

## Session 2

June 18, Morning

### Opening Devotion

In his devotional address Dr. Herman Harms spoke on Rom. 12:1, 2: "The Transformed Life." President H. F. Krohn of the Southern Nebraska District served as liturgist.

The minutes of Wednesday afternoon were adopted as read.

### Election Committee

The Election Committee distributed ballots containing the top five candidates for the office of president.

### Doctrinal Essay

Dr. Paul M. Bretscher began the reading of his doctrinal essay: "Take Heed unto the Doctrine." In our prayers and in our hymns we express our concern for the doctrine. This is not simply the thought of the consecrated heart, but it is taught by Scripture itself. Dr. Bretscher enumerated the following points: God's concern for the doctrine, the source of the doctrine, the content of the doctrine, and the communication of the doctrine. — A second ballot for the presidency was distributed.

### Committee 1 — Seminaries and Colleges

The convention gratefully acknowledged three years of record student enrollments (TB 115, 16), urged congregational stewardship of talented persons (TB 116, 17), encouraged recruitment for the church professions (TB 113, 13), requested recruitment committees and colleges to use the scholarship screening service (TB 114, 14), and decided to continue the policy of granting special scholarships to graduates of Lutheran high schools (TB 114, 15). The resolution regarding synodical tuitions and scholarships (TB 110, 10) was finally adopted after the committee had struck the words "system of" from paragraph "f" and the convention had eliminated the words "for any reason" from paragraph "e" and after paragraph "a" had been twice amended to read: "that synodical tuition for one year be assessed and collected from every student at the time of first enrollment in a synodical high school, college, or seminary." The convention also rescinded Resolution 26 of the 1956 convention, which had granted a lease to a portion of the St. Louis campus for a Lutheran school (TB 112, 11). It also

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adopted a new regulation making the dean of students in St. Louis an office to be filled by appointment rather than by call (TB 110, 9). It was decided that a commission should be appointed to prepare a normative statement of principles regarding theological issues affecting synodical higher education. (TB 112, 12)

#### *Survey Commission*

After the singing of a hymn the special Survey Commission presented a summary of its assignment and its recommendations. (TB 120—124).

#### *Committee 6 — Constitutional Matters*

It was decided that the Treasurer of the Synod should continue to be elected rather than appointed (TB 133, 15). A resolution proposing that the Synod meet every two years was recommitted to the committee. After Resolution 1 (TB 125) had been adopted, it was reconsidered and then recommitted for better wording. After the words "the administrative offices of" had been struck by amendment, Resolution 2 was adopted, providing for the safe keeping of files of appeal cases. With respect to Memorial 507 the convention adopted a resolution regarding official visitations to congregations (TB 126, 3). The Synod declined to limit the term of the presidency (TB 127, 4). The resolution permitting District Treasurers to be appointed if so desired was adopted by a rising unanimous vote. Since this involves a constitutional change, it must now be submitted to the congregations. (TB 127, 5)

#### *Committee 15 — Applications for Membership*

The convention received the following into membership —  
*Ministerial Candidates:* Roland Barkow, Glenn C. Baumann, Leslie Beale, Carl Bornemann, Donald Emily, Joseph Hakes, Arthur Hellert, Victor Lillich, Aden Loest, Martin Marquardt, Lewis Wunderlich, John Matern, James Zehnder, Duane Brunette, Herbert Schulze, Horace O. Johnson; *Teacher Candidates:* Fred W. Chandler, Evan Schiller, Donald Wohlfeil.

After announcements President Behnken closed the session with prayer.

### **Session 3**

**June 18, Afternoon**

#### *Opening Devotion*

President William Kohn of the Southeastern District led the opening devotion.

The minutes of the morning session were adopted as read.

*Election*

The final ballot for president, with Drs. Behnken and O. Harms as the final candidates, was distributed. A motion to hear the previous tallies failed to carry. By action of the convention Pastor Oliver Harms was introduced to the delegates.

*Committee 13—Miscellaneous Matters*

Resolutions were adopted calling attention to the importance of the work of the Armed Services Commission and petitioning the Government to abolish compulsory church attendance of military personnel (TB 147A, 1 and TB 147A, 2). Congregations were also urged to make wider use of the aids provided by the Board for Audio-Visual Education. (TB 147B, 3)

*Committee 1—Seminaries and Colleges*

The convention adopted a table of academic requirements for those who wish to qualify for the ministry by colloquy (TB 95, 1). The resolution (TB 96, 3) setting up the requirements for licensing Lutheran teachers to preach was tabled until the new special committee which is to study theological issues affecting our schools of higher education has had an opportunity to report to the next convention. The Synod discussed criteria for an exchange study program. (TB 97, 4)

*Election*

During the previous discussion the Election Committee reported the re-election of Dr. J. W. Behnken, who declared that he would make a formal statement later. After the convention had stood to sing Hymn 45, ballots were distributed for the write-in primary for the four vice-presidential offices.

*Miami Tornado*

Vice-President Lichtsinn led the assembly in prayer for those who are suffering in the wake of the Miami, Fla., tornado.

*Committee 3—Intersynodical and Doctrinal*

Recognizing the progress that has been made, the delegates resolved to continue to strive for greater unity in the Synodical Conference (TB 102, 1). It was decided to invite the National Evangelical Lutheran Church (Finnish) to establish organic union with the Missouri Synod (TB 102, 2). Recognizing the blessing of the conference of Lutheran theologians which had preceded this convention, it was resolved to continue such conferences in the future (TB 103, 3). The theological faculties were requested to complete the urgently needed studies on prayer fellowship and unionism (TB 104, 4), and the Synod's *Praesidium* as well as all

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District *Praesidia* were encouraged to use every available means for proper supervision of doctrine and practice (TB 105, 5). Discussion was not completed on the resolution to adopt the *Statement on Scripture*. (TB 105, 6)

#### *Kingdom Building — Facts and Figures*

A filmstrip-panel discussion presentation brought out the pressing financial needs of a growing church. Various possibilities such as borrowing and a special offering were discussed.

#### *American Bible Society*

Dr. Robert Taylor of the American Bible Society addressed the convention.

After announcements the session was closed with the singing of "The Morning Light Is Breaking" and the Apostolic Blessing.

### Session 4

#### June 19, Morning

Vice-President Walter F. Lichtsinn gave the opening address on 1 Peter 2:9: "Showing Forth His Praises." President Herbert Baxmann of the South Wisconsin District was the liturgist.

The minutes of Thursday afternoon were adopted.

#### *Doctrinal Essay*

Dr. Bretscher concluded the first part of his essay: "God's Concern for the Doctrine." He sketched the concern which the servants of God have had from the days of the apostles to the present. The great danger confronting a big and growing church is that other concerns may crowd out concern for the doctrine. Dr. Bretscher then proceeded to the second part of his essay: "The Source of the Doctrine." St. Paul did not develop the doctrine as the product of his own mind but, as he states, "according to the Scriptures" and "received by the revelation of Jesus Christ." Since the source of the doctrine is not man but God, we have no right to edit the Scriptures.

#### *Greetings*

Greetings were received from the Breslau Synod and the Slovak Lutheran Church.

#### *Dr. Behnken's Acceptance*

Dr. Behnken read a statement in which he formally accepted the presidency to which he had been elected. He stated that he had often failed his Savior and his church and was well aware of the



tremendous responsibilities which had been imposed upon him, but that he was confident that he would not stand alone in these days of stress and strain, when the very nature of the Bible is under attack even in Lutheran circles. Above all, God would be with him. He requested the prayers of the church and pleaded especially with the professors to remain true to Scripture as the inspired and inerrant Word of God; next to God Himself he would have to depend upon them. Dr. Behnken pledged to do what God would have him do according to the ability which God Himself supplies.

#### *Elections*

Ballots were distributed containing the names of the 12 candidates for vice-president.

#### *Committee 1 — Seminaries and Colleges*

The resolution (TB 97, 4) setting up criteria for an exchange study program was again taken up for further discussion. After several changes in wording had been made by the committee, the resolution was adopted. The convention resolved that an objective study should be made of the mandatory retirement program for our colleges (TB 99, 6), that the Board for Higher Education and the Curriculum Commission should report in detail to the next convention on the curricula (TB 116, 18), and that the Board should continue its study of the procedures involved in engaging, promoting, and transferring teaching personnel (TB 117, 19). The committee presented a lengthy resolution proposing many *Handbook* revisions (TB 176, 5). Adoption was moved and seconded, but discussion was postponed.

#### *The Challenge of Opportunities in America*

A filmstrip-panel discussion presentation explored the challenge of the mission opportunities in America. Home Missions, Evangelism, Church Extension Funds, Student Service, and work among the deaf and blind were the subjects discussed.

#### *Committee 2 — Missions*

The convention acknowledged with thanks the mission blessings and opportunities granted by God (TB 154, 1) and reiterated the goal of 1,350 new mission stations during the decade ending in 1965 (TB 156, 4). Resolution 5, designed to co-ordinate and integrate the mission work of the Synod and the Districts (TB 156, 5), was adopted after the first resolved had been amended several times to read: "1) That this convention request each District Mission Board and Circuit Mission Board to make a complete and intensive survey of the mission opportunities in its area, using

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all available assistance and resources, including those made available by Synod's Board for Missions in North and South America." The convention resolved to authorize the employment of the personnel and services necessary to meet the challenge of the changing scene in rural and urban areas (TB 157, 6), to encourage and support mission work in inner-city areas on the part of the Synod, the Districts, and the individual congregations (TB 158, 7), and to urge all congregations to elect a committee on evangelism. (TB 159, 8)

The session closed with the Apostolic Blessing.

### Session 5

June 19, Afternoon

President Alvin Mueller of the Central Illinois District conducted the opening devotion.

The minutes of the morning session were adopted as read.

#### *Committee 2 — Missions*

It was resolved to undertake an intensified evangelism effort in the pre-Lenten season (TB 160, 9), to urge all congregations to participate in the PTR program (TB 160, 10), and to enlarge the scope of our evangelism program also by intensifying our efforts at conservation (TB 161, 11). It was successfully moved from the floor to send these three resolutions to every congregation. After amending the resolution to refer to all of Latin America instead of merely the South American Districts, the convention commended the brethren south of the border for their work (TB 162, 12). Several men from that area were called to the rostrum and were introduced. Congregations were urged to take note of the many Indians moving into metropolitan areas. (TB 163, 13)

#### *Nominations Committee*

The slate of candidates for secretary and treasurer was approved as presented by the Nominations Committee.

#### *Lay Training School*

Slides were shown stressing the need of a lay training school. An oral presentation followed.

#### *Committee 12 — Public Relations*

The convention adopted resolutions of thanks and commendation with reference to "This Is the Life" (TB 196, 1; TB 196, 2), the Department of Public Relations (TB 197, 3), various other agencies of communication (TB 197, 4), and the Lutheran Hour. (TB 198, 5 as amended)

*Committee 15 — Applications for Membership (Continued)*

The following were received into membership — *Congregations*: St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Durand, Wis.; Faith Lutheran Church, Kitchener, Ontario, Can.; Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Los Gatos, Calif.; Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Clayton Valley, Concord, Calif.; Peace Lutheran Church, Fresno, Calif.; Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Laytonville, Calif.; Bethany Lutheran Church, Gold Beach, Oreg.; Our Savior Lutheran Church, Evansville, Ind.; Calvary Lutheran Church, Jeffersonville, Ind.; Peace Lutheran Church, Chardon, Ohio; Messiah Lutheran Church, Cincinnati, Ohio; Bethany Lutheran Church, Whitehall (Columbus), Ohio; Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Ind.; Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Ind. *Ministerial Candidates*: Gerald W. Drum, Walter Otten, Ralph C. Dipple, Martin Kuhlmann, Alvin Bruenger, John Meether, Wilbert Sohns, James Shaw, Ralph Mueller, Donald Nordmeyer, Herbert Rausch, Ralph Theimer, Raymond Thomas, Kurt Marquardt, Dean L. Schuessler, Gordon Vogt, Murray William Martin, Ferd Bahr, Victor Bittner, Harvey Ehlers, Michael Keyne, David Ludwig, Wilbur Neuman, Van McCulough, Virtus Young, Merton L. Janusch, Kenneth D. Kuhlmann, Carl Beuschlein, Robert W. Paul. *Teachers*: Robert J. Dickhudt, Vern R. Harnapp, Elmer T. Etzler, Herman C. Wills, Douglas D. Williams, Frederick Weiss, Robert Trink, David Schultz, Henry Loppnow, Orville K. Ulmer.

*Committee 13 — Miscellaneous Matters*

Upon the proper motion to reconsider the resolution (TB 147A, 2) with respect to compulsory church attendance of military personnel, the resolution was amended by the addition of the following paragraph: "That we pledge the support of our congregations to the support of the 1956 resolution and that we urge our Armed Services Commission to continue its efforts in this matter until the desired goal has been reached." It was decided to postpone action on the resolution to meet in Detroit in 1965, or 1964 (TB 200, 4) until the Des Moines delegation can be heard by the committee. Resolutions were adopted commending Concordia Historical Institute and thanking the Lutheran Laymen's League for its financial support of the microfilm program. (TB 201, 6; TB 202, 7)

*Committee 2 — Missions*

Congregations were encouraged to work with the blind in their communities (TB 164, 14), and thanks were extended to the many women who have been transcribing literature for the blind. (TB 164, 15)

*Declare His Glory Among the Heathen*

A filmstrip was shown on our foreign mission work, followed by a panel discussion covering our foreign mission opportunities, medical missions, Nigeria, world relief, the importance of an indigenous ministry, and the work of the Wheat Ridge Foundation and of the Lutheran Hour in our foreign operations.

*Elections*

In the course of several ballots during the afternoon the following were elected Vice-Presidents: Oliver Harms, Roland Wiederaenders, A. C. Nitz, George Wittmer.

*Registration Committee*

The report of the Registration Committee showed 1,159 persons in all categories registered.

*Other Business*

The President explained Dr. H. Sasse's presence here, stated that it may be possible for the laymen to meet Monday evening, and read a news release informing the convention of the action taken by the Augustana Synod in respect to parochial and public schools. It was moved and seconded from the floor that Committee 4 be requested to present a resolution stating our position in this matter. The motion carried.

The session closed with a hymn and votum.

**Session 6****June 19, Evening**

Dr. Behnken opened the meeting with the reading of a psalm. The minutes of the afternoon session were approved as read.

*Committee 6—Constitutional Matters*

A resolution was presented that the Synod meet biennially after the 1962 convention and that Districts which feel it necessary to meet more frequently than every other year apply to the Synod for permission to do so. An amendment giving the Districts the right to do this without appealing to the Synod was defeated by a standing vote. The resolution was then adopted (TB 193, 22, replacing recommitted TB 134, 16). The convention declined a memorial proposing that no full-time Executive Secretary receiving salary from the Synod or a synodical organization be eligible to serve as a voting member of a board which receives

an appropriation from the budget (TB 131, 12), and also a memorial proposing that no new full-time positions be created by this convention (TB 128, 6). It was decided by the necessary two-thirds majority vote to change the title "Visitor" to "Circuit Counselor" (TB 128, 7). The present name of the Synod is to be retained (TB 128, 8). The convention declined the memorial requesting that a member of a board be forbidden to enter into business contracts relating to board business (TB 129, 9). It also decided to reject a memorial which would increase the number of lay delegates and of laymen serving on committees (TB 129, 10). Resolution 11 was designed to clarify regulations regarding the ordination of ministerial candidates. After considerable discussion this resolution (TB 130, 11) was referred back to the committee with the instruction that the authority be left in the hands of that District President into whose District the candidate has been called.

#### *Nominations Committee*

After the name of Dr. Herman Rippe had been added from the floor, the slate of candidates for the Board of Directors was adopted. Since Dr. Rippe's qualifications were given orally and since no request for a mimeographed characterization was forthcoming from the floor, the Chair ruled that this was sufficient.

#### *Lecture by Dr. Herman Sasse*

The President now introduced Dr. Herman Sasse, a theologian of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church of Australia, who gave a lecture on "The Ecumenical Movement in Lutheranism." He stated as his conviction that the movement is essentially a quest for truth. In many quarters the questions of the Reformation are again questions open for discussion, and this fact presents a great opportunity for Scriptural testimony. It was his fervent wish that God might bless all efforts throughout the world to discover again the truth of the Scriptures where it is unknown. Since the hour was late, the panel discussion was postponed to a more opportune time.

#### *Elections*

The Elections Committee reported the election of Dr. W. C. Birkner and Dr. Martin Strieter as Secretary and Treasurer respectively.

The session closed with Hymn 6, Luther's Evening Prayer, the Lord's Prayer, and the Apostolic Blessing.

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## Session 7

June 20, Morning

### *Opening Devotion*

In the opening devotion President G. W. Lobeck of the Iowa District West spoke on 2 Tim. 4:1, 2: "Preaching the Word." President A. E. Behrend of the Oklahoma District served as liturgist.

The minutes of Friday evening's session were approved as read.

### *Doctrinal Essay*

Dr. Bretscher finished his presentation on "The Source of the Doctrine" and proceeded to point 3: "The Content of the Doctrine." Some claim that doctrine only sharpens differences and deepens divisions. It is true, doctrine can be so meticulously formulated that it becomes merely a mental exercise and overlooks the essentially "I-Thou" relationship with God. Yet the doctrine must be "sound," as Scripture itself requires. But what is it? It is God's self-revelation in the Scriptures as the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier. Justification by faith in Christ is the heart of the doctrine.

### *Elections*

The ranking of Vice-Presidents was announced: (1) Oliver Harms, (2) Roland Wiederaenders, (3) George Wittmer, (4) Arthur Nitz.

### *Vote Again on Biennial Convention*

Secretary Birkner read a statement in which he called attention to the fact that in last evening's session the resolution providing for biennial conventions (TB 193, 22) involved a constitutional change which requires a two-thirds-majority affirmative vote, but that no count had been taken to determine whether the two thirds required for adoption had been obtained. President Behnken therefore ruled that the resolution would be voted on again.

### *A Ministering Church*

By means of a filmstrip and a panel discussion the work of various parish services was presented: Young People's Work, Armed Services Commission, Social Welfare, Television, and Parish Education.

### *Nominations Committee*

After the name of Marvin Borgelt of Minneapolis had been added from the floor, the slate of candidates for the Board for Missions in Foreign Countries was adopted.

*Committee 12 — Public Relations*

Resolutions were adopted gratefully declining to make the fish the symbol of our church (TB 223, 6) and commending KFUE for its expanding services to the church (TB 223, 7). The chairman stated that this concluded the committee's report.

*Committee 2 — Missions*

A resolution was presented (TB 242, 35) proposing that hereafter the Board for Missions in North and South America be appointed by the President rather than elected. The convention decided to defer action until it had received the report of the committee which is studying the proposed changes in nomination and election procedures. Another resolution (TB 173, 27), with reference to the work in England, was read but discussion postponed.

*Public Statement on Education*

The statement prepared by Committee 4 setting forth our Synod's position with respect to public and parochial education was adopted.

*Presentation*

On behalf of the Hawaiian Lutherans, Pastor Winfred Schroeder presented a plaque to Dr. Behnken as President of Synod.

*Election*

It was reported that the following had been elected to the Board of Directors at this point: Pastor E. T. Bernthal and Messrs. Henry Buck, John Boehne, Jay Pfothner, William Fenske, Walter Koch.

*Committee 4 — Parish Education*

The convention took up a resolution (TB 211, 1) designed to promote parochial schools more vigorously through District Boards of Education and Mission Boards. A lengthy amendment with reference to the advisability of new congregations' establishing schools failed to carry. By means of another amendment, "b, 1," which requested District Boards of Education to make the identification of congregations that could have schools a regular part of their work, was eliminated. The resolution was then adopted as amended. Resolution 2, which dealt with various means of improving our schools, was presented. By amendments the word "continuous" was substituted for "periodic" (line 32) and the word "their" inserted after the word "and" in lines 27 and 31. The resolution was then adopted as amended. (TB 212, 2)

*Biennial Conventions?*

The convention now took up again the resolution (TB 193, 22) proposing biennial conventions. A motion to reconsider was adopted. The Chair then called for a rising vote, which showed 350 for and 171 against. Needed: 348. The Chair ruled that the resolution had been adopted by the required two-thirds majority and would now be presented to the congregations. A point of order was raised whether it would not be proper to give those delegates sitting in committee the right to vote on constitutional changes. The Chair stated that this had not been done in the past but that it would abide by the wishes of the convention. No motion was forthcoming. It was moved, however, and seconded that a recount of votes be conducted. Discussion was broken off for the noon recess.

Dr. Behnken closed with a prayer.

**Session 8****June 20, Afternoon**

Pastor E. George Pearce, Chairman of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of England, conducted the opening devotion.

The minutes of the morning session were adopted as read.

*Biennial?*

The Chair ruled that if there were no objection, a definite time would be set aside and announced in advance for a vote by ballot on the resolution proposing biennial conventions. Since no objection was offered, it was so ordered.

*Committee 6—Constitutional Matters*

After the committee had inserted in line 18 the words "for the sake of good order in the church," the convention adopted the resolution regulating ordination of ministerial candidates (TB 242a, 25). The per-communicant assessment to defray the triennial convention expenses was increased (TB 131, 13). A resolution proposing a new procedure in filling vacancies in the Synod's *Praesidium* was defeated (TB 132, 14). Provision was made to include the Concordia Historical Institute in the *Handbook* (TB 149, 17). After Dr. Behnken had announced that the balloting on the biennial convention question would be held at 2:45, permitting persons in committees to come to the convention hall, the proposed resolution (TB 149, 18) declining the request for the formation of a new District in Synod was debated. The closeness of the voice vote necessitated a standing vote. For the resolution: 221; opposed: 308. The committee was instructed by the Chair to submit another resolution concerning this matter.



*Committee 3 — Intersynodical and Doctrinal*

When the discussion on TB 105, 6 was reopened, it was resolved, upon recommendation of the committee, to defer action until No. 9 had been considered. This resolution (TB 108, 9), in turn, proposed the following:

A. That Synod further clarify its position by reaffirming that every doctrinal statement of a confessional nature adopted by Synod as a true exposition of Holy Scriptures is to be regarded as public doctrine (*publica doctrina*) in Synod; and

B. That Synod's pastors, teachers, and professors are held to teach and act in harmony with such statements; and

C. That those who believe that such statements are not satisfactory in part or in their entirety are not to teach contrary to them, but rather are to present their concern to their brethren in the ministry, particularly in conferences, to the appropriate District officials, and if necessary to the synodical officials.

It was moved and seconded to amend the first line of paragraph B (TB, line 32) by inserting after "professors" the words: "are asked individually to subscribe to and." When the session closed, discussion of the amendment had not been completed.

*Biennial? No*

During the previous discussion the Election Committee reported that 651 votes had been cast in the balloting on the question of biennial conventions. Two thirds required: 434. In favor: 385. Opposed: 266. The resolution (TB 193, 22) therefore failed to carry.

*Committee 16 — Nominations*

After the name of Pastor Amos Schmidt, Portland, Oreg., had been added, the slate of candidates for the Board for Missions in North and South America was adopted.

After a laymen's meeting had been announced for Monday evening in Polk Hall, the session was closed with the Lord's Prayer in unison.

**Session 9***Opening Devotion*      **June 22, Morning**

In the opening devotion President Ottomar Krueger of the Central District spoke on "Feeding Christ's Lambs," John 21:15. The liturgist was President E. H. Stahlke of the Minnesota District.

The minutes of Saturday afternoon were approved as read.

*Doctrinal Essay*

Dr. Bretscher concluded his presentation by elaborating on point 4: "The Communication of the Doctrine." Both in the per-

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sonal witnessing and in the public teaching program God's doctrine is communicated to the world. It must be our concern to communicate as effectively and as correctly as possible. As we teach the doctrine, we have the assurance of triumph. Dr. Behnken thanked the essayist for his presentation.

#### *Committee 16 — Nominations*

The convention adopted the slates for the following boards: European Affairs, Missions to the Blind, Missions to the Deaf, and Parish Education.

#### *Dr. Grumm*

By a rising vote Dr. A. H. Grumm was unanimously elected Honorary Vice-President.

#### *Committee 11 — Finances*

Before the Committee on Finances presented its report, the President reminded the delegates of the following *Handbook* requirements: (1) All appropriations demand a two-thirds affirmative vote; (2) all expenditures authorized shall be subject to appropriations of the Fiscal Conference. — The question of free examination of, and discounts on, textbooks was referred to the Board of Concordia Publishing House (TB 246, 1). Expressions of thanks were extended as the reports of the following were adopted: Board of Directors (TB 246, 2), the Synod's Treasurer and Fiscal Office (TB 247, 3), former Treasurer Dr. W. H. Schlueter (TB 247, 4), the Board of Trustees of the Synod's Trust Funds (TB 248, 5). It was resolved to endorse a new, intensified mission education program (TB 248, 6). After Resolution 7 had been amended with the insertion into line 11 of the words "and effectively executed," the discussion on the resolution itself was broken off. (TB 249, 7)

#### *Elections*

It was reported that the following had been elected to the Board for Missions in Foreign Countries: Pastors Paul Mehl, L. M. Petersen, Paul Martens, Victor Bartling, T. A. Weinhold, H. Earl Miller. Laymen: Paul Bente, Charles Obermeyer, Paul Simon, Fred Kuhlmann, and Louis Dau.

#### *Committee 4 — Parish Education*

Congregations were encouraged to set up machinery for the recruitment of full-time workers (TB 213, 3), to make full use of the talents of parochial school teachers (TB 214, 5), and to make use of released time and other weekday opportunities (TB 217, 9). The convention took steps for the production of more school text-

books and instructional materials (TB 213, 4). After two amendments had been successfully moved, the following resolution was adopted: "That congregations with schools be encouraged to review salaries annually and to consider the advisability of adopting an up-to-date, realistic salary schedule which takes into account years of service, years of training, and special responsibilities, and one which will encourage our teachers to continue in this field and our members to enter the teaching field" (TB 215, 6). It was decided to intensify the Bible Institute program (TB 215, 7) and to introduce vacation Bible school workshops on the circuit level (TB 216, 8). A resolution proposing the publication of three catechisms was presented (TB 217, 10). An amendment was made and seconded to strike Section E and change Section F to E. Discussion of the amendment was broken off.

#### *Committee 9 — Hymnology and Liturgics*

After a lei had been presented to Dr. Behnken, the Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics reported. After a change in wording, the report of the permanent committee was accepted and its name changed to "The Commission on Worship, Liturgies, and Hymnology" (TB 259, 1). It was resolved that serious consideration be given to simplification of language in new editions of *The Lutheran Hymnal* and *Agenda* (TB 259, 2) and that work be continued on a text-tune edition of the hymnal, if the demand warrants it (TB 260, 3). The resolution with reference to an executive secretary in this field was referred back to the committee. Regulations for the standing commission were offered for inclusion in the *Handbook* (TB 262, 5). The following amendment was moved from the floor, but not yet seconded, that in IV, 1, line 3, "the" be omitted and that in 2.b all words following the word "Synod" in line 11 be struck up to the words in line 13: "and in this area. . ."

#### *Pastor Hingst*

Dr. Herman Harms led the convention in prayer for Pastor R. A. Hingst of Lakeland, Fla., who had suffered a heart attack before the pageant last evening.

After announcements the session was closed with a votum.

### **Session 10**

#### **June 22, Afternoon**

The opening devotion was conducted by President Lloyd Goetz of the North Wisconsin District.

The minutes of the morning session were approved as read.

*Limit Speakers*

It was moved and seconded from the floor that nonvoting delegates be limited to three minutes of speaking. After the Chair had ruled that in exceptional cases a point of privilege could be raised, the motion carried.

*Registration Committee*

Secretary Birkner read the names of those who had not yet completed their registrations.

*Committee 2 — Missions*

Resolutions were adopted encouraging our brethren in England (TB 173, 27), in Germany (TB 173, 28), and in Africa (TB 175, 30). The Synod decided to make part-time arrangements for a resident counselor in Europe (TB 174, 29). A Bible was presented and a rising vote of thanks was extended to Miss Angela Rehwinkel for thirty-eight years' service in India (TB 170, 24). During these moments various missionaries home on furlough from foreign lands were introduced from the rostrum. Missionary Carino presented to the President a carving of the Lord's Supper executed by the Lutherans in the Philippines. The convention decided to create, with the concurrence of the Board of Directors, a third executive position for the Board for Missions in Foreign Countries (TB 167, 20) and to enter the Middle East as a new mission field with the approval of the Board of Directors (TB 168, 21). During this time Dr. Kirsten of Germany addressed the convention.

*Committee 16 — Nominations*

The slate of candidates for the Commission on College and University Work and for the Board for Young People's Work was adopted with the addition of Mr. Milford Brauer, Minneapolis, to the latter slate.

*Committee 6 — Constitutional Matters*

The Committee on Constitutional Matters began its lengthy report on the work of the Synodical Survey Commission. The preliminary resolutions 1 and 2 on page 306 were adopted. The reading was not completed.

*Committee 3 — Intersynodical and Doctrinal*

Discussion was renewed on Resolution 9 (TB 108) presented by the Committee on Intersynodical and Doctrinal Matters. The mover of the amendment "are asked individually to subscribe to and" withdrew his amendment. The delegate who had seconded the amendment agreed. Since no objection was offered, withdrawal of the amendment was agreed to by common consent. In answer

to a question from the floor, the Chair ruled that the adoption of the resolution required a simple majority. After considerable discussion a motion to close debate failed to carry. After much additional discussion an amendment was moved and seconded to combine paragraphs B and C and to strike the following words: "are held to teach and act in harmony with such statements, and C. That those." After still more discussion Dr. Behnken asked for the privilege to make a statement. He stated in brief that he was surprised that there should be such hesitancy in adopting a resolution of this type. For if the Synod adopts a doctrinal statement after much study and discussion, is it not binding upon him as the President who is charged with the supervision of the doctrine and upon the members of the Synod? If persons find themselves not in agreement, then the brotherly way is to try to correct the document as paragraph C outlines. He found it difficult to understand how anyone could fear this resolution as a club or sword. It was announced that the *Brief Statement* would be mimeographed overnight for distribution among the delegates.

#### *Elections*

During the course of the afternoon the following election results were announced: *Board for Missions in North and South America*: Pastors E. H. Buchheimer, C. T. Spitz, E. Pieplow, H. Hartner, L. Deffner; Laymen O. Doerr, E. T. Schumm, M. Eggerding, Ferd. Gast. *Board for Missions to the Blind*: Pastors H. Timm, H. Mueller, Theodore Weiss; Laymen E. Berger, E. Schiewe. *Board for European Affairs*: Pastors M. Naumann, C. Behnke, J. Oppliger; Laymen O. Dorn, L. Menking. *Board of Parish Education*: Pastors W. J. Fields, J. Kretzmann, A. Ziegler; Teachers P. Lange, A. E. Wittmer, A. Brandhorst; Laymen E. Fritz, W. Link, R. Becker. *Board for Missions to the Deaf*: Pastors E. Drews, E. Schroeder, E. Koberg; Laymen E. N. Mitchell, Carroll Jacobson. *Commission on College and University Work*: Pastors A. Oldsen, R. Jesse; Layman Walter Gross. *Board for Young People's Work*: Pastors George Hoyer, C. Peters; Teachers L. Ramming, H. Gruber; Layman E. W. Schroeter. (To complete the record: Pastors William Buege and William Kohn were elected to the Board of Directors.)

After announcements the session was closed with the Lord's Prayer in unison and the Apostolic Blessing.

### Session 11

#### *Opening Devotion*

June 23, Morning

President Hugo Kleiner of the English District gave the devotional address on Eccl. 12:1: "Remembering Thy Creator in Thy

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Youth." President George Wittmer of the Western District served as liturgist.

The minutes of Monday afternoon were adopted as read.

*Committee 16 — Nominations*

The slate of candidates for the Board of Support and Pensions was approved.

*Committee 5 — Young People's Work*

Resolutions were adopted stressing the importance of active youth committees in all congregations (TB 343, 1), encouraging young people in their New Dimensions program (TB 343, 2), and urging that the youth program be made a financial responsibility of the congregations and Districts (TB 344, 3, as amended). Resolution 8 was recommitted.

*Committee 11 — Finances*

The convention endorsed the establishment of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Foundation and urged the use of the Foundation in making special gifts (TB 374, 19 and 20). After several additional amendments had been defeated, a resolution was adopted urging all congregations to conduct annually a well-planned and effectively executed every-member stewardship visit (TB 249, 7, as previously amended). Further discussion on Resolution 8 was postponed.

*Committee 2 — Missions*

Arrangements were made to increase the number of laymen on the Church Extension Board to four (TB 273, 40) and to overlap the terms of office (TB 274, 41). Resolutions were adopted encouraging the work of our Philippine church among the Moslems (TB 169, 22), thanking the LLL, LWML, WL, and the Wheat Ridge Foundation for their contributions to the foreign mission work (TB 169, 23), appointing a committee to supply the needs presented by the problem of illiteracy in many foreign lands (TB 154, 2), establishing a lecture bureau for missionaries home on furlough (TB 155, 3), expressing sympathy to the family of Missionary A. K. Graf (TB 171, 25), extending warm appreciation to Dr. O. H. Schmidt, formerly Executive Secretary of the Board for Missions in Foreign Countries (TB 172, 26), and giving recognition to Pastor O. C. Schroeder for 50 years of service to the blind and deaf (TB 165, 16). It was also decided to continue the conferences for workers among the deaf (TB 165, 17), to recognize the 57 years of service to the deaf on the part of Dr. J. L. Salvner (TB 166, 18), to increase the scope of the work on college campuses (TB 239, 31),

and to commend Gamma Delta (TB 240, 32). Further discussion on Resolution 33 was postponed.

#### *Committee 8 — Publications*

Commendation was extended to Concordia Publishing House for its work (TB 362, 1) and for establishing the Concordia Tract Mission (TB 362, 2), to the General Literature Board (TB 363, 3), to the Young People's Literature Board for the expansion of its program (TB 364, 5), to Dr. J. T. Mueller for his long editorial career (TB 363, 4), and to the editorial committee of *Advance* magazine. (TB 365, 6)

#### *Awards Ceremony*

In a special ceremony Dr. A. O. Fuerbringer, representing the seminary in St. Louis, awarded the Honorary Doctor of Divinity degree to Pastor E. George Pearce and Citations of Merit to Mr. J. W. Boehne, Jr., Mr. Louis Lochner (*in absentia*), Miss Angela Rehwinkel, and Mr. Christian Schmidt. The John of Beverly medal was presented to Dr. John L. Salvner and the Valley Forge Freedoms Foundation Distinguished Teacher award to Mr. Melvin W. Luebke.

The session closed with a hymn and votum.

## Session 12

June 23, Afternoon

#### *Memorial Service*

The speaker in the Memorial Service was President Roland Wiederaenders of the Texas District and the liturgist President Philip Mueller of the South Dakota District.

The minutes of the morning session were adopted with a change in the previously announced devotional text.

#### *Committee 1 — Seminaries and Colleges*

Resolutions were adopted making many changes in the *Handbook* with reference to higher education (TB 176, 5; TB 100, 7; TB 101, 8), thanking all who are engaged in this field (TB 188, 25), raising the minimal requirements for the preparation of women teachers (TB 189, 26), accepting the report of the Committee on the Centennial of Formal Teacher Training (TB 190, 27), commending Concordia College, St. Paul, on achieving accreditation and urging other schools to seek the same (TB 191, 28), taking grateful note of the first anniversary of the Senior College (TB 191, 29), and also authorizing the sale of a portion of the Senior College campus to the State of Indiana for a dual-lane highway (TB 192, 30). This last-named resolution was moved by the Rev.

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Justus Kretzmann, Florissant, Mo., and seconded by Mr. Orville Olson of Louisville, Ky. The convention also approved detailed plans for the reorganization of the synodical education system in Brazil (TB 264, 31), provided for the appointment of boards of control at the colleges in South America (TB 265, 32), authorized additional professorships at these institutions (TB 266, 33), declined at this time to make the deaconess-training program an official activity of Synod (TB 353, 35), decided to keep the seminary in Springfield instead of moving it to the West Coast (TB 353, 36), directed the Board for Higher Education to study further the nature and scope of pastor and teacher training in the western part of the United States (TB 354, 37), re-established the high school freshman year in Portland (TB 358, 42), made changes in the *Handbook* with reference to teacher colloquies (TB 358, 2), broadened the housing policy for appointed teaching personnel (TB 355, 40), adopted a set of basic principles for a revised policy governing the purchase of faculty housing (TB 356, 41, as amended), and specifically authorized the Board of Directors to buy and sell campus property between conventions. (TB 119, 21)

#### *Committee 16 — Nominations*

The convention approved a slate of candidates for the Church Extension Board and the Board of Appeals.

#### *Committee 3 — Intersynodical and Doctrinal*

The convention now took up again the doctrinal resolution of *Today's Business* 108, 9. Pastor B. H. Jackayya of India on a point of privilege stated that he had been misquoted in the daily newspapers. After considerable discussion the amendment to strike certain words from paragraphs B and C, previously reported in the minutes, was defeated. Mr. Herzog of the English District raised the following parliamentary inquiry and asked that it be incorporated in the permanent record: "How long shall the Synod stand and thwart the will of God which is expressed also through the local congregation?" Dr. Behnken answered that there is no barrier between God and the congregations, that the Synod only supervises the doctrine of the member congregations, which is one of the great purposes of the Synod. A move to table Resolution 9 indefinitely failed to carry. When the previous question had been successfully moved, the convention adopted Resolution 9. Pastor Robert Lindemann of New York requested that his "Nay" be recorded in the minutes. Dr. Behnken made a closing statement to the effect that this resolution does not stand on the same level with the Lutheran Confessions, that it is not to be used as a club,



for that would not be exercising Christian love. On the other hand, anyone who feels there is a mistake in any doctrinal document adopted by the Synod is to proceed in a brotherly way as outlined in the resolution. In adopting this resolution, said Dr. Behnken, we are repeating our conviction that our doctrine is grounded in the Scriptures.

#### *Elections*

It was reported that the following were elected to the Board of Support and Pensions: Pastors W. E. Lichtsinn, B. Janssen, E. Meichsner; Teachers E. Roth, A. Obermann; Laymen N. Fleischer, O. David, A. Hahn, L. Bartelt, H. Fairchild.

#### *Committee 1 — Seminaries and Colleges*

The convention now considered the resolution to establish a new junior college in the Detroit area (TB 351, 34) at a cost of \$6,000,000 plus the cost of site. Further discussion was withheld until Committee 1 could meet with Committee 11 on Finances. Next the convention considered the resolution authorizing the introduction of four-year teacher-training programs at our junior colleges as advisable (TB 355, 39). An amendment which would have deleted half of the resolution failed to carry. Further discussion on the resolution proper was then broken off.

#### *Portland Presentation*

A representative of our Portland Concordia presented \$1,000 from the student body to Pastor B. H. Jackayya for the Church Extension Board of our church in India.

After announcements the session was closed with the Apostolic Blessing.

### **Session 13**

#### **June 23, Evening**

After Dr. Behnken had opened the session with a brief devotion, the minutes of Tuesday afternoon were approved as read.

#### *Committee 11 — Finances*

Resolutions were adopted urging congregations to make definite commitments toward District and Synod and to remit one twelfth of the amount every month (TB 250, 8), declining Memorial 808 but prescribing that serious study be given to the present method of setting the synodical budget (TB 251, 9), providing that Memorial 825 be considered by the Districts and by the 1960 Stewardship School (TB 375, 21), instructing the Board of Directors and Fiscal

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Conference to avoid wherever possible any adjustments which adversely affect our missionary program (TB 252, 10), urging that gifts to foreign missions be made through the regular channels (TB 253, 11), and adjudging that Memorial 818 has already been provided for satisfactorily since up to 25 per cent of the Pension Fund is already being invested in equities. (TB 253, 12)

#### *Elections*

The following elections were reported: *Church Extension Board*: Pastors H. Zehnder (6 yrs.), A. Born (3 yrs.); Teachers H. Rupp (6), G. Bode (3); Laymen A. W. Krieger (6), L. Kuhlmann (6), C. Koester (3), H. Hast (3). *Board of Appeals*: Pastors H. Berner, H. Bouman, Walter F. Lichtsinn, L. Wunderlich, Carl Eberhard, William F. Krueger; Laymen J. Friedrich, C. J. Thrun, E. Wengert, E. Theiss, A. Hallerberg.

#### *Dr. O. Harms's Statement*

Dr. Oliver Harms read his formal statement in which he accepted the First Vice-Presidency subject to the granting of a peaceful release by his congregation. He pledged faithful service based on the acceptance of the Bible as the inspired and inerrant Word of God, requested the prayers of the Synod, and is looking to Jesus in faith for comfort.

#### *Committee 13 — Miscellaneous*

The convention now considered the resolution to establish as soon as possible a two-year lay training school at a location to be determined by the Board of Directors in consultation with the Board for Higher Education; for this \$150,000 is to be appropriated for the next triennium (TB 325, 10). The following amendments were defeated: to lower the enrollment age from 20 to 18, to strike paragraph 12 entirely, to eliminate completely all references to enrollment ages. A motion to recommit also failed to carry. A delegate moved the previous question. Even though a voice vote was taken, the motion easily passed by the required two thirds majority. Resolution 10 was then adopted.

#### *Committee 10 — Support and Pensions*

The convention now took up the report of the Committee on Support and Pensions (TB pp. 335 ff.). Action on Resolution 1 was deferred until the committee could consult with the Committee on Constitutional Matters. Resolution 3 was recommitted.

The session closed with Hymn 9, Luther's Evening Prayer, the Lord's Prayer, and the Apostolic Blessing.

**Session 14****June 24, Morning***Opening Devotion*

President Hellbusch of the Colorado District gave the devotional address on "Manifesting Love to the Brethren." President F. W. Lorberg of the Florida-Georgia District was the liturgist.

The minutes of Tuesday evening were adopted as read.

*Committee 16 — Nominations*

The slate of candidates for the Board of Concordia Publishing House was approved.

*Committee 1 — Seminaries and Colleges*

The convention took up once again the resolution (TB 355, 39) authorizing the introduction, as advisable, of four-year teacher-training programs at our junior colleges. The amendment "that St. Paul be expanded to a four-year college, beginning with the fall term this year" failed to carry. After the previous question had been moved, Resolution 39 was adopted. The St. Louis seminary is to be made a greater center of research also in the field of Biblical manuscripts (TB 424, 43). Necessary legal steps were taken involving title to the St. Louis seminary properties (TB 425, 45). The convention authorized the sale of a strip of property on the St. Paul campus to the State of Minnesota for the construction of a highway (TB 426, 48). This was moved by Pastor Justus Kretzmann of Florissant, Mo., and seconded by Ernest Block. The resolution (TB 351, 34), previously moved and seconded, to establish a new junior college in the Detroit area within the next triennium for \$6,000,000 plus the cost of the site again came before the convention. Dr. Oliver Harms, chairman of the committee, read a statement from Committee 11 to the effect that that committee could reach no decision as to whether or not it concurred, but that it had no objection to having this resolution presented to the floor. After considerable time had been spent on this resolution, discussion was broken off.

*Committee 11 — Finances*

The Committee on Financial Matters presented a long resolution (TB 405, 23) with reference to the financial needs, urging congregations to respond and, if they fail, authorizing the Board of Directors to initiate a special offering; and authorizing the Board to borrow up to \$5,000,000 during the next triennium for capital-investment items. Adoption of the first section was moved and seconded. The amendment to strike the limiting amount of \$5,000,000 carried. The question was raised from the floor whether

a resolution on borrowing is a resolution on appropriations, which would in turn require a two-thirds majority vote? The Chair ruled that it was not. Time had elapsed before all speakers could be heard.

*Committee 6 — Constitutional Matters*

Committee 6 completed its presentation with reference to the report of the Synodical Survey Commission, answering questions at each section. It was then moved from the floor and seconded that the provisions of group II and item 11 of group III be removed from the approval of the report of this committee. (See TB 305ff.)

The session was closed with a prayer by the chairman.

## Session 15

### June 24, Afternoon

The opening devotion was conducted by President L. W. Koehler of the Manitoba-Saskatchewan District. The minutes of the morning session were adopted as read.

*St. Louis Seminary Property*

The Chair ascertained that Pastor William T. Schreyers had seconded the motion (TB 425, 45) with reference to the title to the St. Louis seminary property. The motion had been made by Pastor Justus Kretzmann.

*Committee 16 — Nominations*

The convention approved the slates for the boards of control of Austin, Bronxville, Concordia, Milwaukee, Oakland, Portland, St. Paul, and Winfield.

*Committee 7 — Lodges and Boy Scouts*

Synod reaffirmed the position taken in 1944 on scouting (TB 410, 4), received the report of the Commission on Fraternal Organizations (TB 408, 1), reaffirmed its stand on the lodge question, and decided to make the lodge practice of congregations and pastors a matter of special concern of the Presidents (TB 408, 2). A resolution was presented to create the full-time office of Director of the Commission on Fraternal Organizations (TB 409, 3). An amendment to strike everything after "evil" in line 29 and to insert in line 28 after "help" the words "through its Commission on Fraternal Organizations" was moved and seconded. There was no opportunity for further discussion.

*Elections*

The following were reported as having been elected to the Board of Concordia Publishing House: A. Leimbach, Ralph Mueller, Edwin Koch.

*Committee 8 — Publications*

The convention commended the Committee on Scholarly Research and changed its name to Committee for Research (TB 366, 7), referred the question of reprinting the translation of *Starck's Prayer Book* to the General Literature Board (TB 366, 8), declined the memorial with respect to the publication of Beck's translation of the Bible after the wording of line 9 had been changed to read "desires to take no action on publishing" (TB 366, 9), encouraged Concordia Publishing House to publish a continuing index of Synod's magazines and periodicals (TB 367, 10), requested the College of Presidents to consider an official policy on the publication of District convention proceedings (TB 368, 11), thanked the editorial staff of the *Lutheran Witness* after an amendment had been adopted proposing that greater doctrinal emphasis be given in the *Witness* (TB 369, 12), accepted new regulations governing the appointment of the Editorial Board and the editors of the *Lutheran Witness* and the *Lutheraner* (TB 369, 13), and asked the Editorial Board to present to the next convention a clarification of the term "official organ" (TB 370, 14), a report on special editorial problems (TB 370, 15), and a proposal concerning the future status of the *Lutheraner* (TB 371, 16). Finally the convention decided to abolish the Board for Audio-Visual Aids and to integrate its work with CPH. (TB 371, 17)

*Committee 3 — Intersynodical and Doctrinal*

The convention adopted the *Statement on Scripture* (TB 105, 6), deferred action on the *Statement on Antichrist* until the Synodical Conference has had an opportunity to consider it (TB 106, 7), reaffirmed its position on the place of women in the church (TB 107, 8), referred proposed changes in the Catechism to the Board for Parish Education (TB 109, 10), and declined Memorials 618 and 624 which had requested that certain contested resolutions be declared null and void (TB 229, 11). A resolution (TB 230, 12) reaffirming the Synod's approval of the 1956 report of the Advisory Committee on Doctrine and Practice was declared to be adopted unanimously. Subsequently one delegate reported from the floor that he had voted against it. The convention unanimously declared as irrelevant the questions posed by Memorial 616 (TB 342, 16 replacing TB 232, 16) and also unanimously directed the signers of Memorial 623 to the doctrinal statements already approved by the Synod and to the regular procedural channels of the Synod (TB 232, 17). It was decided to defer action on the question of membership in the Lutheran World Federation until the report of the Committee on Doctrinal Unity on this matter is available. (TB 233, 18)

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*Committee 1—Colleges and Seminaries*

The convention again took up the question of establishing a junior college in the Detroit area (TB 351, 34). A delegate moving the previous question was unsuccessful. A motion to defer action to the 1962 convention failed. After much discussion, adjournment time was advanced to 5:20. Now the previous question was moved and passed by more than the required two-thirds majority. Hereupon the resolution itself was finally adopted. The convention approved Resolution TB 354, 38 after the committee had dropped the whereases and had changed the wording to read "Resolved, a) That the Synod request the Board for Higher Education to continue to study, in consultation with the appropriate synodical and District officials and other interested parties, the question of a synodical school in the Southeast within the time limits of the options now held by interested parties in Catawba County, without commitment regarding the establishment of a synodical school; and be it further Resolved, b) That this convention thank the representatives of Catawba County, North Carolina, for their interest in this matter."

*Elections*

The following were elected to the various college Boards of Control: Austin—Pastor W. F. Meyer, Laymen Howard Klein (9), Albert Schulz (3). Bronxville—Pastors R. Ressmeyer, Layman Charles Nehring. Concordia—Pastor Howard Barth, Layman Edwin Pape. Milwaukee—Pastor Felix Kretzschmar, Layman Carl Hinrichs. Oakland—Pastor Paul Huchthausen, Layman W. A. Kamrath. Portland—Pastor H. Lieske, Layman Richard Brandon. St. Paul—Pastor Henry W. Brill, Layman Paul Seltz. Winfield—Pastor Earl Schmiesing, Layman Walter Helberg.

The convention heard Dr. Empie of the National Lutheran Council and Mr. Koch of the ELCA of Australia.

Adjournment followed with the benediction.

**Session 16****June 24, Evening**

After the singing of Hymn 12 the minutes of the afternoon session were approved as read.

The Wheat Ridge Foundation presented a film on Medical Missions. Slides were shown on the work of the Armed Services Commission. Mr. Ben Holt addressed the convention on lodges. Committee 7 presented a resolution commending him for his significant contribution to the educational campaign on lodgism. The

resolution was adopted. The Council of Lutheran Agencies showed a filmstrip on the work carried on by its constituents.

The session closed with Hymn 7, the Lord's Prayer, Luther's Evening Prayer, and the Benediction.

### Session 17

#### June 25, Morning

In the opening devotion President V. L. Behnken of the Southern California District spoke on "Giving Liberally and Cheerfully." The liturgist was President E. W. Homrighausen of the Southern District.

The minutes of Wednesday evening's session were adopted as read.

#### *Committee 16 — Nominations*

The slates for the remaining boards of control were approved with the addition of Mr. Johannes Engel for the Proseminary in Brazil.

#### *Committee 2 — Missions*

The convention resolved to accept the India Evangelical Lutheran Church as a sister church and to pledge it our assistance (TB 167, 19). Pastor Jackayya addressed the convention. Greetings are to be sent to the brethren in Japan who are in convention.

#### *Committee 6 — Constitutional Matters*

Provisions were made for the election of the Fort Wayne Board of Control (TB 468, 34, replacing TB 125, 1). A new set of regulations for the nomination and election of officers and boards was presented (TB 289, 26). An amendment to strike the entire proposed 2.07 section carried. During the discussion on the amendment a motion to recommit the entire resolution failed. An amendment to eliminate 6.21 also failed to carry by a vote of 229 to 285. At this point time had elapsed.

#### *Committee 5 — Young People's Work*

Congregations were urged to train lay counselors for youth work (TB 345, 5), to use the Lutheran Youth Inventory (TB 346, 6), to emphasize work on the senior level (TB 345, 4), and to use young people in congregational canvasses and other projects (TB 423, 8, replacing TB 347, 8). It was decided to introduce as soon as possible the youth-work programs at our synodical schools (TB 347, 7), to commend the Board for Young People's Work and the Walther League (TB 350, 11), and to have youth representatives appointed in every circuit to assist the circuit counselor

(TB 348, 9). This completed the committee's work, and it was dismissed with thanks.

*Committee 11 — Finances*

Dr. Martin Strieter, Treasurer of the Synod, presented a summary of his printed report. Resolution 23 (TB 405) again came before the assembly. Paragraph 4 was amended by substituting after "EMV" the words "for the purpose of obtaining monetary pledges." Discussion was then broken off.

*Committee 13 — Miscellaneous*

It was decided to meet in Detroit in 1965 (TB 200, 4). Representatives from Cleveland, the site of the next convention, were heard. A set of resolutions on racial discrimination (TB 328, 12) was adopted after the word "innate" had been inserted after "alleged" in line 26, page 329. The memorial to suspend capital improvements at Selma and Greensboro was declined. (TB 448, 15)

*Committee 1 — Colleges and Seminaries*

The Secretary was authorized to standardize the language of the adopted convention resolutions and particularly of the adopted *Handbook* revisions (TB 439, 52). The convention approved a priority listing of capital expenditures at the synodical schools and thanked the Minnesota and Northern Illinois Districts for their generosity (TB 152, 22), approved expansion of the School for Graduate Studies in St. Louis (TB 424, 44), declined the request for a junior college branch at River Forest at this time (TB 426, 46), authorized that further study be made of compulsory vicarage on the part of male teacher students (TB 426, 47), directed that salary schedules at our synodical schools be reviewed annually (TB 428, 49), and accepted a table of capital investments to be recommended to the Fiscal Conference for inclusion in the synodical budget over the next three years. (TB 187, 23, as amended)

*Committee 2 — Missions*

A set of new *Handbook* paragraphs concerning medical missions was adopted (TB 321, 50), and it was decided to offer the services of the Executive Secretary of Medical Missions also to the Synodical Conference. (TB 323, 51)

The chairman closed the session with a prayer.

## Session 18

### June 25, Afternoon

The opening devotion was conducted by Rev. B. H. Jackayya. The minutes of the morning session were approved as read.



*Committee 14 — Registrations*

The Registration Committee made its final report of 1,222 in attendance and was excused with thanks.

*Committee 7 — Lodges and Boy Scouts*

Resolution 3, with reference to the Commission on Fraternal Organizations (TB 409, 3), was again presented. Upon request of the mover the amendment before the house was withdrawn by common consent. A new amendment was then offered to strike all "resolveds" after line 29 and to add: "That the Board of Directors be instructed through the Fiscal Conference to provide the funds necessary to enable the Commission on Fraternal Organizations to carry on its work effectively." After this amendment had carried, the motion was adopted as amended. The committee was excused.

*Committee 4 — Parish Education*

The convention next considered the resolution to publish three catechisms on different age levels (TB 217, 10). Paragraph "e," which provided for the publication in both the King James and RSV versions, was struck by amendment. The resolution was then adopted. Congregations were urged to keep better soul-accounting records and to intensify home contact (TB 283, 13), to involve the Sunday school in evangelism programs (TB 283, 14), to improve the organizational structure of the Sunday schools (TB 284, 15), to take their educational programs into consideration when building houses of worship (TB 284, 16), to review annually the *Sunday School Standard* (TB 286, 18). The Sunday School Teacher-Training Program is to be intensified (TB 285, 17). Provisions were adopted for making Bible classes more effective (TB 286, 19). In a lengthy resolution (TB 219, 11) the convention revised and adopted the "Statement on Interfaith or Mixed Marriages," after inserting into line 25, page 268, of the book of *Reports and Memorials* the statement: "The Lutheran party should be encouraged steadfastly to witness to the truth."

*Committee 6 — Constitutional Matters*

After a legal statement had been read by the committee's attorney, Resolution 26 (TB 289), changing the synodical election procedures, was adopted as previously amended. By motion from the floor the substance matter of deleted 2.07 was referred to the standing Committee on Constitutional Matters for consideration and report to the Cleveland convention. A resolution was presented referring the request for the formation of a new District to the Minnesota District for evaluation and recommendation. The convention refused to consider a substitute motion to go on record

as favoring the proposal of the Park Region. Discussion on the original resolution was postponed for lack of time. (TB 418, 33)

*Committee 3 — Intersynodical and Doctrinal*

In answer to Memorial 606 the convention provided for the publication in the *Concordia Theological Monthly* of the various studies being made by our theological faculties and placed any necessary action into the hands of synodical officials (TB 456, 13), requested the faculties to make available a statement on the question of Apostolic Succession (TB 231, 14), warned against Romanizing tendencies (TB 231, 15), decided to invite representatives of The American Lutheran Church (TALC) to meet with our Committee on Doctrinal Unity, and invited the sister synods to participate (TB 233, 19), deferred action on the question of membership in the National Lutheran Council until the report of the Committee on Doctrinal Unity is available (TB 234, 20), decided to send official observers to the assembly of the World Council of Churches and to similar conventions (TB 234, 21), declared the matter concerning a paper on Christ's descent into hell to be settled since the author had rectified his error (TB 454, 22, with lines 5 and 6 canceled), and urged all conferences to give prominence to the study of Christian doctrine (TB 484, 23). The committee was dismissed with thanks.

*Detroit for Sure*

The question was raised from the floor whether the vote on the junior college in the Detroit area had been a two-thirds vote. The chairman ruled that it had been. When the ruling was challenged, a rising vote was ordered by the Chair. Total voting: 550. Required: 366. For: 457. Against: 93. The Chair declared the resolution formally adopted.

*Committee 9 — Hymnology and Liturgics*

The Committee on Hymnology presented Resolution 5 once again with a new paragraph "b" as a proposed amendment, which was accepted by the convention. Further amendments eliminated the word "the" in line 3, page 263, and changed the number "3" to "6" in line 20, page 262. The resolution was then adopted as amended (TB 262, 5). The convention deferred action on the question of creating the position of executive director in this field until the 1962 convention (TB 419, 6 for recommitted 261, 6). The committee was dismissed with thanks.

*Committee 1 — Colleges and Seminaries*

The convention took up Resolution 50 (TB 428) listing detailed propositions as working principles in providing for growth to match

and insure the Synod's growth. A final resolution was added by amendment: "That the Board for Higher Education solicit the expressions of opinion and suggestions of pastoral conferences on all these propositions." Proposition 13 was amended to read: "That the training of lay workers be undertaken on an experimental basis as per the resolution concerning lay-training schools passed by this convention." Further discussion was postponed.

*Committee 11 — Finances*

Once again the detailed Resolution 23 (TB 405) on finances was taken under consideration. An amendment to limit the borrowing power to short-term borrowing failed. After the previous question had been successfully moved, Part I of the resolution was adopted as previously amended.

After it had been decided to adjourn and to meet this evening from 6:30 to 9:30, the session closed with the Apostolic Benediction.

**Session 19**

**June 25, Evening**

After a brief opening devotion the minutes of Thursday afternoon were approved as corrected.

*Committee 16 — Nominations*

The slate for the new Committee on Nominations was adopted with the addition of Mr. Herman Bacher and Pastor Philip Fiess of Canada.

*Committee 11 — Finances*

Part II of *Today's Business*, page 405, 23, the enabling resolution for borrowing, was adopted after the date 1960 had been changed to 1959.

*Committee 6 — Constitutional Matters*

The resolution regarding the Survey Commission report (TB 305, 31) was again placed before the body. After the previous question had been moved, the proposed amendment to remove Group II and item 11 of Group III from the approval of the report of the committee failed to carry. The section headed Group II was now read. Adoption of Group II was moved and seconded. A motion was offered to defer action on this matter until the next convention in 1962 so that our congregations, conferences, and boards can give this matter further study. A motion to limit debate to three minutes and setting forth other limitations was lost by a rising vote of 159 to 310. Discussion on the motion to defer had not been completed when the time had elapsed.

*The Doctrinal Essay*

Dr. Behnken was given a rising vote of thanks for distributing Dr. Bretscher's paper in printed form.

*Elections*

The following were elected to various Boards of Control: St. Louis—Pastors G. Nitz (9 yrs.), F. Niedner (3); Laymen O. Brauer, J. Fleischli. Springfield—Pastor P. Streufert, Layman H. Olsen. River Forest—Pastor E. Paul, Teacher E. Ruprecht, Layman A. Rittmueller. Fort Wayne—Pastors Clifford Aulick (9), O. Riess (6), A. Fedder (3); Teacher E. Sagehorn (6); Laymen R. Berning (9), C. Geist (9), R. Moellering (6), A. Hein (3), C. Heldt (3). Edmonton—Pastor A. Raduenz; Layman J. Armbruster. Seward—Pastor O. Graebner; Teacher A. Senske; Laymen C. Goetz, H. Shepman. Concordia Seminary, Argentina—Pastor H. Berndt; Laymen R. Schewe, F. Ahnert, J. Hardt, G. Kroeger. Concordia Proseminary, Brazil—Pastor E. Reimnitz; Teacher C. Morris; Laymen O. Kraemer, A. Mattis, J. Engel. Concordia Theological Department, Brazil—Pastor C. Warth; Laymen H. Wagner, A. Nickel, O. Sager.

*Committee 10—Pensions*

The convention took steps to bolster the Pension Fund reserve for investment depreciation (TB 335, 1), defined the terms "widower" and "dependent husband," (TB 335, 2), increased to \$1,800 per year the limit on earnings of those receiving a subsidized pension (TB 466, 3A), retained the minimum pension at \$100 per month (TB 466, 3B) and the limit on earnings even after the age of 72 (TB 467, 3C), continued the present contribution rate regardless of the age of the member (TB 337, 4), took steps to appoint a committee to study by the next convention the possibility of including lay employees in the Pension Fund (TB 338, 5), and thanked the Pension Board and staff (TB 339, 6). The committee was dismissed with thanks.

*Committee 13—Miscellaneous Matters*

The convention commended the Committee on Church Architecture (TB 324, 9), adopted Resolutions 1, 2, 3, 4 on pages 703—705 of *Reports and Memorials* regarding institutional chaplaincy services (TB 449, 17), support of welfare agencies (TB 450, 18), the establishment of needed welfare services (TB 450, 19), and the increase from 5 to 6 in the number of members on the Board of Social Welfare (TB 450, 20), authorized clinical training in various specialized fields for institutional chaplains (TB 451, 21), and approved the dissemination of a list of the charitable organizations

within our Synod (TB 449, 16). The convention declined to create the position of Institutional Chaplaincy Consultant (TB 452, 22) as well as an office of ecumenical information (TB 324, 8). It was, however, decided to refer back to Committee 13 for an appropriate resolution the problem of our institutional chaplains who feel that they lack professional guidance.

#### *Committee 8 — Publications*

Appreciation was expressed to Mr. R. C. Obermann, retiring member of the Board of CPH (TB 485, 18). Resolution 19 (TB 485) was withdrawn by the committee. The question of filming the pageant "Declare His Glory," was referred to Concordia Publishing House with the amendment that the music of our regular order of Communion be used. (TB 486, 20 as amended)

#### *Committee 1 — Colleges and Seminaries*

The convention again took up Resolution 50, setting forth working principles in the field of higher education. On page 430, line 15, the word "is" was changed to "appears" by common consent. An amendment to strike proposition 5 was defeated. An amendment was moved and seconded to strike proposition 14. Discussion was not completed on this amendment.

Adjournment followed with Hymn 6, a prayer, the Lord's Prayer, and a votum.

### **Session 20**

**June 26, Morning**

#### *Opening Devotion*

In the opening devotion President A. W. Schneider of the Brazil District spoke on "Seeking Strength in Christ." President F. A. Niedner of the Northern Nebraska District served as liturgist.

After a rising vote had been extended to the children's choir, the minutes of Thursday evening were adopted as read.

#### *Laymen's Meeting*

The convention acceded to the request of the meeting of laymen that hereafter a meeting be scheduled on the first day of the convention for the briefing of lay delegates and that two specified evenings be kept open for open hearings (TB 438). It was also resolved that every lay delegate should consider himself during the next three years as a delegate from this convention to the congregations which he represents.

#### *Committee 11 — Finances*

The convention declined to place the Council of Lutheran Agencies into the synodical budget (TB 254, 13), arranged for

a committee to consider the question of an annual Synodwide financial appeal for Lutheran charity agencies (TB 257, 14), urged that financial statements of such agencies be submitted directly to their constituencies and placed on file with the Board of Directors (TB 257, 15), declined to enter into a group insurance plan (TB 258, 16) and to set up an official fund-raising service (TB 373, 17). The convention refused to consider a substitute motion on the latter question. The assembly adopted *Handbook* revisions regarding finances (TB 373, 18; TB 376, 22), created circuit cabinets to assist the circuit counselors (TB 420, 24), urged all congregations to set aside at least one third of their contributions for Synod and the District (TB 420, 25) and to inform the District President no later than February 1 of the amount which they are willing to raise for this purpose during the current year (TB 422, 26), encouraged greater use of the convention filmstrip and recording (TB 422, 27), adopted a projection of Synod's program (*Reports and Memorials*, pp. 484, 485) as a guideline for budgets for the next six years (TB 445, 28), and directed that all expenditures authorized by this convention be subject to appropriations by the Fiscal Conference (TB 486, 29). The committee was dismissed with thanks.

#### *Elections*

The following were elected to the Committee on Nominations: Pastors M. Zschoche, A. Burroughs, R. Jesse, W. Graumann, P. Fiess, F. Geske, E. Kieninger; Teachers W. Hartkopf, H. Miller, L. Schwich; Laymen C. Amling, O. Schmidt, H. Bacher, E. Heiden, B. Jutzi. The chairman of the Elections Committee stated that if anyone elected to office declines to serve, the person next in the balloting will replace him. The committee was then dismissed with thanks.

#### *Committee 2 — Missions*

It was resolved to divide the Church Extension Department into two divisions: Expansion and Investment. The words "to the District Church Extension Funds in behalf of" were inserted into lines 19 and 20 (TB 271, 38). After several technical amendments, duly noted, extensive *Handbook* revisions on the Church Extension Fund were made. (TB 457—461, 39—49, replacing TB 272—282)

#### *Committee 6 — Constitutional Matters*

The resolution concerning the report of the Synodical Survey Commission was again placed before the body. After the previous question had been moved, the motion to defer was defeated. The word "under" was inserted by amendment (p. 310, lines 34 and 39,

p. 311, b). The words "in connection with its missions in foreign lands" was inserted in line 26, p. 309. A fifth resolved was added to p. 308: "That agencies and boards within a division shall be encouraged to plan at least one joint meeting each year in order to co-ordinate policy development and broad planning within the divisions." After the previous question had been moved, the motion to adopt Group II carried. Now Group I (basic policy decisions) was adopted. By amendment the following was added to Group III: "That all recommendations which the commission expects to propose for adoption at a General Synod be published at least six months prior to the opening date of any such synodical conventions." A proposed amendment to strike point 9, p. 317, failed to carry. Group III was then adopted (items to be studied further by a survey committee), followed by the adoption of the entire report (TB 305, 31, as amended). After the previous question had been moved, the resolution with respect to the possible creation of a new District (TB 418, 33) was adopted.

#### *Committee 13 — Miscellaneous Matters*

The Committee on Miscellaneous Matters reported that it had no additional resolutions to offer regarding institutional chaplains. Regulations were adopted as to when and how long teachers are regarded officially as teachers of Synod (TB 446, 5). The convention took note of the fact that our Canadian brethren have organized The Lutheran Church—Canada, a move which in no way affects their relationship with Synod (TB 447, 13, as amended). Resolutions were adopted to conserve theologically trained manpower by engaging laymen whenever possible for administrative positions (TB 447, 14), to observe in 1961 the 150th anniversary of Dr. Walther's birth (TB 327, 11), to remember gratefully the servants of Synod who had departed this life during the past triennium (TB 487, 23, as amended), and to extend thanks to various individuals and groups (TB 488, 24, as amended). The committee was dismissed with thanks.

#### *Library of Ecumenical Information*

A resolution was offered from the floor and adopted instructing the Committee on Doctrinal Unity to establish a library of ecumenical information.

The convention declined to reconsider TB 128, 7 (Circuit Counselors).

Adjournment followed with a prayer.

**Session 21****June 26, Afternoon**

President W. F. Janzow of the Southern Illinois District conducted the opening devotion.

The minutes of the morning session were adopted as read.

*Committee 16 — Nominations*

The Nominations Committee presented a resolution which was adopted, permitting the President to fill vacancies on the various boards of control.

*Committee 1 — Colleges and Seminaries*

With respect to Resolution 50, the convention refused to delete proposition 14. Proposition 9 was amended to read: "That the Synod continue to train as high a percentage of its Christian day school teachers as possible. We further recommend that, beginning with women students entering in September 1962, only those holding a baccalaureate degree from one of the church's teachers colleges or properly admitted to the profession by colloquy be certified as Lutheran teachers. (Cf. Resolution 26 of the 1959 convention)." The entire resolution was then adopted. Additional professorships at various colleges were established (TB 431, 51). The committee withdrew TB 187, 24, since the subject matter was covered by TB 407, 23B. The committee was dismissed with thanks.

*Committee 2 — Missions*

A statement on mission work was adopted but not included in the *Handbook* (TB 462, 52, replacing TB 241, 34). A memorial requesting a change in selecting the Board for Missions in North and South America was declined (TB 462, 53, replacing TB 242, 35). *Handbook* revisions were adopted governing mission work (TB 267, 36) and the Executive Secretary and his staff (TB 270, 37). On page 457, line 26, the word "functions:" was inserted over paragraph "a" as a heading. Church Extension Funds are to be promoted more vigorously (TB 240, 33). The committee was dismissed with thanks.

*Honorary Vice-Presidents*

Upon recommendation of the College of Presidents, Dr. H. Harms and Dr. W. F. Lichtsinn were declared Honorary Vice-Presidents by the assembly.

*Installation*

Dr. W. F. Lichtsinn installed the President and the Vice-Presidents in their respective offices.



*Committee 4—Parish Education*

The convention declined Memorial 635, which had requested a change in the statement on interfaith marriages (TB 220, 12). It declined Memorial 634 in respect to the book *Engagement and Marriage* but urged further study of this book (TB 287, 20), after a motion to postpone action had been defeated 148 to 279 and after an amendment had carried, striking from lines 17 and 18, p. 288, the words "with a view to clarifying and unifying our teaching and practice." Resolutions were adopted to strengthen the family life (TB 401, 21), to encourage children's church attendance (TB 401, 22), to suggest more frequent church services (TB 402, 23 with the words "sacramental attendance" inserted after "worship" on line 32, p. 402), and to recommend planned parish programs (TB 403, 24). A resolution to appoint a full-time editor of weekday materials was defeated (TB 404, 25). By a close standing vote of 198 to 171, congregations were urged to analyze their educational programs and where needed to establish the office of director of Christian education. A motion from the floor, which carried, requested our present staff to provide weekday materials.

*Committee 6—Constitutional Matters*

The convention decided hereafter to permit properly secured loans from the Pension Fund Reserve to incorporated member congregations of the Synod (TB 416, 32). New *Handbook* regulations were adopted governing the Board for Parish Education (TB 150, 19), changing the name to "Board of Parish Education" (TB 151, 20), recognizing The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Foundation (TB 195, 24), providing for the earlier appointment of convention-arrangement committees (TB 331, 27), as well as regulations governing the Board of Appeals (TB 331, 28), the electors for the South American educational institutions (TB 333, 29), and the election of District officers (TB 334, 30, carried by more than the required two-thirds vote). In Resolution 24 (TB 195) the standing Committee on Constitutional Matters was authorized to add whatever additional statements might be required in the *Handbook* in order to bring it up to date (also TB 489, 37). The convention held that the minority reports on the Synodical Survey Commission had been sufficiently treated in Resolution 31 (TB 469, 36). Thanks were extended to various committees (TB 468, 35). Committee 6 also offered a proposal that all reports and memorials be presented fourteen weeks in advance instead of ten, and that the book of *Reports and Memorials* be made available eight weeks in advance of the convention instead of four. This was adopted. The committee was then dismissed with thanks.

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*Committee 18 — Excuses*

The convention adopted the report of the Committee on Excuses.

After the President had thanked the committees and the members of the convention, the convention adjourned with a brief closing devotion.

HERBERT MUELLER, *Assistant Secretary*

**Officers and Boards Elected****A. General Officers**

*President:* Rev. John W. Behnken, D.D.

*First Vice-President:* Rev. Oliver R. Harms, D.D.

*Second Vice-President:* Rev. Roland P. Wiederaenders, D.D.

*Third Vice-President:* Rev. George W. Wittmer

*Fourth Vice-President:* Rev. Arthur C. Nitz

*Board of Directors:* The President, the Secretary and the Treasurer, ex officio; Rev. E. T. Bernthal, D.D.; Rev. Wm. Buege; Rev. Wm. Kohn; Messrs. John W. Boehne, Jr., LL.D., Henry Buck, William Fenske, Walter Koch, Jay Pfotenhauer.

**B. Boards of Control**

Ex officio, the President of the respective District

*Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.:* Revs. Gerhardt Nitz, Frederic Niedner, D.D.; Messrs. J. A. Fleischli, O. P. Brauer.

*Concordia Seminary, Springfield, Ill.:* Rev. Paul Streufert; Mr. Harold M. Olsen.

*Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, Ill.:* Rev. Erwin Paul; Teacher E. H. Ruprecht; Mr. Adolf Rittmueller.

*Concordia Teachers College, Seward, Nebr.:* Rev. O. A. Graebner; Teacher Al Senske; Messrs. Henry Shepman, Charles H. Goetz.

*Concordia Senior College, Fort Wayne, Ind.:* Revs. Clifford Aulick, Allen H. Fedder, Oswald G. L. Riess; Teacher E. F. Sagehorn; Messrs. Robert Berning, Carl Geist, Carl Heldt, Arthur Hein, Robert Moelering.

*Concordia College, Edmonton, Alta., Can.:* Rev. A. H. Raduenz; Mr. John Armbruster.

*Concordia College, Austin, Tex.:* Rev. W. F. Meyer; Messrs. Howard Klein, Albert Schulz.

*Concordia College, Bronxville, N.Y.:* Rev. Rudolph P. F. Ressimeyer; Mr. Charles Nehring.

*St. Paul's College, Concordia, Mo.:* Rev. Howard Barth; Mr. Edwin Pape.

*Concordia College, Milwaukee, Wis.:* Rev. Felix Kretzschmar; Mr. Karl Hinrichs.

*Concordia College, Oakland, Calif.:* Rev. Paul Huchthausen; Mr. W. A. Kamrath.

*Concordia College, Portland, Oreg.:* Rev. H. L. Lieske; Mr. Richard Brandon.

*Concordia College, St. Paul, Minn.:* Rev. Henry W. Brill; Mr. Paul H. Seltz.

*St. John's College, Winfield, Kans.:* Rev. Earl Schmiesing; Mr. Walter Helberg.

*Concordia Seminary, Villa Ballester, Argentina:* Rev. Herbert Berndt; Messrs. Jorge Hardt, Rudolf Schewe, Gerardo F. Kroeger, Franz Ahnert.

*Concordia, Porto Alegre, Brazil, Proseminary:* Rev. Elmer Reimnitz; Teacher Carlos H. Moris; Messrs. Oswaldo Kraemer, Alfredo Mattis, Johannes Engel.

*Concordia, Porto Alegre, Brazil, Theological Department:* Rev. Carlos H. Warth; Messrs. Adalberto Nickel, Oswaldo Sager, Hugo Wagner.

#### C. Mission Boards

*Board for Missions in North and South America:* Revs. Edward H. Buchheimer, C. Thomas Spitz, Edwin E. Pieplow, Harlan Hartner, L. H. Deffner; Messrs. Oscar Doerr, E. T. Schumm, Milford Eggerding, Ferd Gast.

*Board for Missions in Foreign Countries:* Revs. Paul Mehl, L. M. Peterson, Paul Martens, Victor Bartling, T. A. Weinhold, H. Earl Miller; Messrs. Paul Bente, Charles Obermeyer, Paul Simon, Fred Kuhlmann, Louis Dau.

*Board for Missions to the Deaf:* Revs. Ernest Drews, E. Schroeder, Elmer Koberg; Messrs. E. N. Mitchell, Carroll J. Jacobson.

*Board for Missions to the Blind:* Revs. Harry A. Timm, Herbert J. Mueller, Theodore A. Weiss; Messrs. Ernest Berger, E. O. Schiewe.

*Board for European Affairs:* Revs. Martin Naumann, Charles A. Behnke, John Oppliger; Messrs. Otto Dorn, Louis Menking.

#### D. Other Boards

*Church Extension Board:* Revs. H. F. Zehnder, A. W. Born; Teachers Henry C. Rupp, G. F. Bode; Messrs. A. W. Krieger, Leo Kuhlmann, Carl T. Koester, Herbert Hast.

*Board for Support and Pensions:* Revs. W. E. Lichtsinn, B. W. Janssen, E. T. Meichsner; Teachers E. A. Roth, A. W. Obermann; Messrs. Norbert Fleisher, O. L. David, Arthur Hahn, L. F. Bartelt, Herbert Fairchild.

*Board of Appeals:* Revs. Herbert Berner, Herbert Bouman, Walter F. Lichtsinn, Lorenz Wunderlich, Carl Eberhard, William F. Krueger; Messrs. Julius Friedrich, Carl J. Thrun, Eugene Wengert, Elmer Theiss, Arthur Hallerberg.

*Board of Directors for Concordia Publishing House:* Messrs. Alfred Leimbach, Ralph Mueller, Edwin J. Koch.

*Board of Parish Education:* Revs. Wilbert J. Fields, Justus P. Kretzmann, Arthur Ziegler; Teachers Paul Lange, Arthur E. Wittmer, A. R. Brandhorst; Messrs. Edgar Fritz, Waldemar Link, Rex Becker.

*Board for Young People's Work:* Revs. George Hoyer, Clarence Peters; Teachers Leonard Ramming, Homer C. Gruber; Mr. E. W. Schroeter.

*Commission on College and University Work:* Revs. Armin C. Oldsen, Richard A. Jesse; Mr. Walter Gross.

*Committee on Nominations:* Revs. Martin Zschoche, A. C. Burroughs, Richard F. Jesse, William Graumann, Philip Fiess, Fred Geske, Elmer Kieninger; Teachers Walter Hartkopf, Herman Miller, Luther Schwich; Messrs. Clarence Amling, A. H. Schmidt, Herman Bacher, E. A. Heiden, Ben Jutzi.

#### Committees

The reports and memorials to Synod as contained in the book of *Reports and Memorials*, also including a large number of unprinted overtures, were submitted by the President of Synod to eighteen committees, as reported in the official organs of Synod. These committees are listed below:

##### Committee 1: Seminaries and Colleges

*District Presidents:* Baase (A. B. C.), Behnken (S. Calif.), A. Mueller (C. Ill.), Karkau (Eastern), Kleiner (English), Oetting (Iowa E.), Goetz

(N. Wis.), Koehler (Man. & Sask.), Rathke (Ontario), Ph. Mueller (S. Dak.), Homrighausen (Southern), Krohn (S. Nebr.). — *Pastors*: Krentz (Central), Bekemeyer (C. Ill.), Schmooch (Eastern), Kretzmann (English), Stephan (Iowa W.), Weber (Mich.), Sieving (Minn.), Brauer (N. Wis.), Sedory (N. Ill.), K. Schultz (S. Wis.), Smith (S. Calif.), E. Heckmann (Tex.), Barth (Western). — *Laymen*: H. Schaefer (Atlantic), Wampner (Calif. & Nev.), Krumsieg (English), Fritz (Fla.-Ga.), Kuhlman (Mich.), Tonn (Minn.), Wood (Mont.), Hinrichs (N. Ill.), Woolery (N. Nebr.), Soderholm (N. W.), Hickethier (S. Wis.), Muentner (S. Ill.). — *Teachers*: Muehl (Central), Seevers (S. E.). — *Professors*: Fuerbringer, Spiegel, Bickel, Poehler. — *Chairman*: Dr. Oliver R. Harms.

#### Committee 2: Missions

*District Presidents*: Lorberg (Fla.-Ga.), L. K. Meyer (N. Dak.), Schneider (Brazil), Kroeger (Argentina). — *Pastors*: Weber (Atlantic), Young (Calif. & Nev.), Plunkett (Central), Frankenstein (C. Ill.), Rumsch (English), Niemann (Iowa E.), Fields (Iowa W.), Bickel (Man. & Sask.), Ripke (Mich.), Haak (Minn.), Leckband (Mont.), Schedler (N. Wis.), Thieme (N. Ill.), Falkenroth (N. Nebr.), Frank (Okla.), Johnson (S. Wis.), Hunt (S. E.), Gebauer (Southern), O. Schmidt (S. Ill.), Scherer (Western). — *Laymen*: Stowell (Atlantic), Kastner (A. B. C.), Wyneken (Calif. & Nev.), Keske (Central), Conner (Colo.), Arnold (Eastern), Hoeferkamp (English), Duitsmann (Kansas), Pulford (Mich.), Pfeiffer (Minn.), Jergens (Iowa W.), Schmidtke (N. Ill.), Kappen (N. W.), Mattis (Brazil), Kuester (S. Wis.), Kletke (S. Calif.), Lambrecht (S. Nebr.), Twinn (Tex.). — *Teachers*: Gehrs (N. Ill.), Dryer (Minn.), Jiede (Atlantic). — *Professors*: Wm. Danker, Eggold, Gross. — *Chairman*: Dr. Herman Harms.

#### Committee 3: Intersynodical and Doctrinal Matters

*District Presidents*: Wiederaenders (Tex.), Nitz (Calif. & Nev.), Werfelmann (N. Ill.), Kohn (S. E.). — *Pastors*: Miller (Central), Wyssmann (C. Ill.), Parsch (N. Wis.), Schroeder (Mich.), Brill (Minn.), Nickel (N. Nebr.), Schlecht (Tex.), Fritze (Western). — *Laymen*: Seim (Colo.), Wendt (Eastern), Piehl (Iowa E.), Koester (Iowa W.), Treiber (Mich.), Padrutt (N. Wis.), Bein (S. Wis.). — *Teacher*: Koehler (English). — *Professors*: Franzmann, Wunderlich, Kramer, Zimmerman. — *Chairman*: Dr. R. Wiederaenders.

#### Committee 4: Parish Education

*District President*: Janzow (S. Ill.). — *Pastors*: Gall (Atlantic), H. J. Meyer (Central), Hartenberger (Eastern), Holstein (Iowa W.), Daenzer (Mich.), A. Affeldt (Minn.), Schleicher (S. Dak.). — *Laymen*: Koch (A. B. C.), Rajanen (Calif. & Nev.), Henrich (Central), Limpert (Minn.), Felten (English), Corniels (N. Ill.), Bartsch (Tex.). — *Teachers*: Buerger (C. Ill.), Brandt (Iowa E.), Leuthauser (Mich.), Hasemann (N. Ill.), Wendland (S. Wis.). — *Professor*: Koehneke. — *Chairman*: Dr. W. F. Lichtsinn.

#### Committee 5: Young People's Work

*District President*: Niedner (N. Nebr.). — *Pastors*: Albohm (Atlantic), Zeisser (Central), Heintzen (C. Ill.), Wedig (Colo.), Eggers (English), Heidenreich (Mich.), Fellwock (Minn.). — *Laymen*: Contois (Calif. & Nev.), Zitzelberger (Mich.), Goebel (Minn.), Polzin (N. Wis.), Kuhlmann (Okla.), Brockmann (Tex.). — *Teachers*: Moeller (Mich.), K. Meyer (Western). — *Professor*: Stuenkel. — *Chairman*: The Rev. F. A. Niedner.

#### Committee 6: Constitutional Matters

*District Presidents*: Wittmer (Western), Krueger (Central), Krieger (Mich.). — *Pastors*: Kuehn (Atlantic), Kammrath (English), Willer (Fla.-Ga.), Brammer (Iowa E.), Fritz (N. Dak.), Ludwig (N. Wis.),

Runge (S. E.). — *Laymen*: Olson (Central), Koehler (Eastern), Turnock (English), Ioerger (Kans.), Stoeffler (Mich.), Felten (Minn.), Hartwig (N. Wis.), Streuter (S. Ill.). — *Teacher*: Richert (Mich.). — *Professor*: Wuerffel. — *Chairman*: The Rev. George W. Wittmer.

#### Committee 7: Lodges and Boy Scouts

*District President*: Lobeck (Iowa W.). — *Pastors*: Luebkmann (Calif. & Nev.), Matthias (Central), Zimmermann (C. Ill.), Friedrich (Minn.), Dryer (N. Nebr.), Barth (S. Wis.). — *Laymen*: Krueger (Eastern), Weis (English), Zuehlke (Mich.), Holt (N. Dak.), Behrens (N. Ill.), Boxdorfer (Western). — *Teacher*: Firnhaber (S. Calif.). — *Professor*: Merkens. — *Chairman*: The Rev. G. W. Lobeck.

#### Committee 8: Publications

*District President*: Hellbusch (Colo.). — *Pastors*: Von Schlichten (Atlantic), Toelke (English), Roehrs (Mich.), Geske (Minn.), Bohlman (N. Ill.), Stapf (S. Dak.), Ott (Western). — *Laymen*: Larson (Calif. & Nev.), Divine (Iowa E.), Ahlskog (N. W.). — *Teachers*: Siems (Central), Tegtmeier (S. Nebr.). — *Professors*: Caemmerer, Bredemeier. — *Chairman*: The Rev. H. H. Hellbusch.

#### Committee 9: Hymnology and Liturgics

*District President*: Bensene (N. W.). — *Pastors*: Hoelter (Calif. & Nev.), Melinat (N. Ill.), C. Selle (S. Wis.). — *Laymen*: Wargo (Atlantic), Dillon (Western). — *Teachers*: Rosenthal (Central), Hoyer (Colo.), Kamprath (Mich.), Obst (N. Wis.), Hitzemann (N. Ill.), Schoenleber (S. Ill.), Garske (Tex.), Toensing (Western). — *Professors*: Buszin, Maurer. — *Chairman*: The Rev. Carl H. Bensene.

#### Committee 10: Support and Pensions

*District President*: Freiburger (Mont.). — *Pastors*: Schlecht (Mich.), Fedder (N. Ill.), Boxdorfer (S. Calif.), Saeger (S. Nebr.), Morgal (Western). — *Laymen*: Heitmeyer (Central), Kronbach (English), Baehr (Mich.), Olsen (Minn.), Fahnestock (N. Nebr.), Wings (Ont.), Bultmann (S. Wis.). — *Teachers*: Handrick (S. Wis.), Leeseberg (Atlantic). — *Professor*: C. H. Scaer. — *Chairman*: The Rev. Paul M. Freiburger.

#### Committee 11: Finances

*District Presidents*: Baxmann (S. Wis.), Behrend (Okla.). — *Pastors*: Riedel (Atlantic), Beiderwieden (C. Ill.), Drews (Eastern), Kissling (English), Zeile (Mich.), Hansen (Minn.), Klug (N. Wis.), Piehler (N. Ill.), Bernthal (N. Nebr.), Werning (S. Nebr.), Droegemueller (Tex.). — *Laymen*: Hey (Central), Thielking (Iowa W.), Schem (Kans.), Frank (Mich.), Ross (Minn.), Fischer (N. Dak.), Kettner (N. Ill.), Schwengel (S. Wis.), Taylor (S. E.), Luecke (Southern). — *Teacher*: Schoennauer (N. W.). — *Professor*: Gienapp. — *Chairman*: The Rev. H. W. Baxmann.

#### Committee 12: Public Relations

*District President*: Rippe (Atlantic). — *Pastors*: Woldt (English), P. Krause (Minn.), Going (N. Ill.), Schramm (N. W.), Schneider (S. Wis.), Bellmann (S. Nebr.), Oelschlaeger (Western). — *Laymen*: Schumann (Atlantic), Luebken (Iowa W.), Betker (Mich.), Gast (N. Wis.), Schertel (Western). — *Teacher*: Moses (Central). — *Professor*: v. Rohr Sauer. — *Chairman*: The Rev. H. J. Rippe.

#### Committee 13: Miscellaneous

*District Presidents*: W. H. Meyer (Kans.), Stahlke (Minn.). — *Pastors*: Bringewatt (Atlantic), Bicker (Eastern), Steffen (Iowa W.), Schoenow

(Mich.), Marxhausen (Minn.), Elbert (N. Ill.), Eichmann (N. W.), Guenther (S. Ill.), Staehr (S. Nebr.), Walter (Tex.). — *Laymen*: Heuser (Central), Luedke (C. Ill.), Bowman (English), Hamel (Mich.), Hansen (Minn.), Krohmer (N. Ill.), Gienapp (S. Dak.), Wahlberg (S. Wis.) Runge (Western). — *Teacher*: Kohtz (N. Nebr.). — *Professor*: A. E. Meyer. — *Chairman*: The Rev. W. H. Meyer.

#### Committee 14: Credentials and Registration

*Pastors*: Rubin (Calif. & Nev.), Janke (Calif. & Nev.). — *Laymen*: Krause (Calif. & Nev.), Haussmann (Calif. & Nev.). — *Teacher*: Mohr (Calif. & Nev.). — *Chairman*: The Rev. A. L. Rubin.

#### Committee 15: Application for Membership

*Pastors*: Schedler (S. Wis.), Wenger (S. Ill.). — *Layman*: Nolting (Western). — *Teacher*: Pohlman (S. Calif.). — *Chairman*: The Rev. A. Schedler.

#### Committee 16: Nominations

(This committee was appointed by the Selection Committee elected at the St. Paul convention.) *Pastors*: Selle (South Wisconsin), Polack (Calif. & Nev.), Eickhoff (Western), Becker (Okla.), Kennell (Southern), Barth (English), Harley (Tex.). — *Laymen*: Koch (Central), Heinz (Iowa E.), Kammrath (S. Calif.), Schur (Atlantic). — *Teachers*: Arnst (N. Ill.), Keuer (Tex.), Eggers (Kans.). — *Chairman*: The Rev. V. Selle; *Co-chairman*: Dr. Walter Schur.

#### Committee 17: Elections

*Pastor*: Schnedler (Central). — *Layman*: Carlington (N. W.). — *Teacher*: Albers (Western). — *Chairman*: The Rev. E. Schnedler.

#### Committee 18: Excuses

*Pastors*: Baumgaertner (Mich.), Schroeder (Western). — *Laymen*: Rausch (Central), Mayer (Man. & Sask.), Walter (Minn.), Pennington (N. Ill.). — *Teacher*: Noenning (Minn.). — *Chairman*: The Rev. J. E. Baumgaertner.

#### Committee 19: Appeals

Since no appeals were addressed to Synod, it became unnecessary to elect a Committee of Review.

### New Members

By accepting the report of Committee 15, Synod received a number of congregations, pastors, and teachers into membership. The following report was submitted and *adopted*:

#### Congregations

Bethany Lutheran Church, Whitehall (Columbus), Ohio, Central District.  
 Calvary Lutheran Church, Jeffersonville, Ind., Central District.  
 Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Ind., Central District.  
 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Ind., Central District.  
 Messiah Lutheran Church, Cincinnati, Ohio, Central District.  
 Our Savior Lutheran Church, Evansville, Ind., Central District.  
 Peace Lutheran Church, Chardon, Ohio, Central District.  
 Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Clayton Valley, Concord, Calif., California and Nevada District.  
 Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Los Gatos, Calif., California and Nevada District.

Peace Lutheran Church, Fresno, Calif., California and Nevada District.  
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Laytonville, Calif., California  
and Nevada District.

Bethany Lutheran Church, Gold Beach, Oreg., Northwestern District.  
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Durand, Wis., North Wisconsin  
District.

Faith Lutheran Church, Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, Ontario District.

#### Ministerial Candidates, 1959 Graduates

Ferd Bahr, Springfield  
Roland Barkow, St. Louis  
Glenn C. Baumann, St. Louis  
Leslie Beale, St. Louis  
Carl Beuschlein, St. Louis  
Victor Bittner, St. Louis  
Carl Bornmann, St. Louis  
Alvin Bruenger, St. Louis  
Duane Brunette, St. Louis  
Ralph C. Dipple, St. Louis  
Gerald W. Drum, St. Louis  
Harvey Ehlers, St. Louis  
Donald Emily, St. Louis  
Joseph Hakes, St. Louis  
Arthur Hellert, St. Louis  
Merton L. Jannusch, Springfield  
Michael Keyne, Springfield  
Kenneth D. Kuhlman, St. Louis  
Martin Kuhlmann, St. Louis  
Victor Lillich, St. Louis  
Aden Loest, St. Louis  
David Ludwig, St. Louis  
Van McCullough, Springfield

Murray W. Martin, St. Louis  
John Matern, St. Louis  
Kurt Marquardt, St. Louis  
Martin Marquardt, St. Louis  
John Meether, St. Louis  
Ralph Mueller, St. Louis  
Wilbur Neuman, Springfield  
Donald Nordmeyer, St. Louis  
Walter Otten, St. Louis  
Robert W. Paul, St. Louis  
Herbert Rausch, St. Louis  
Dean L. Schuessler, St. Louis  
(1958 graduate)  
Herbert Schulze, St. Louis  
James Shaw, Springfield  
Wilbert Sohns, St. Louis  
Ralph Theimer, Springfield  
Raymond Thomas, St. Louis  
Gordon Vogt, St. Louis  
Lewis Wunderlich, St. Louis  
Virtus Young, St. Louis  
James Zehnder, St. Louis

#### Teachers

Fred. W. Chandler, RF '59  
Robert J. Dickhudt, S '58  
Elmer T. Etzler, S '58  
Vern R. Harnapp, S '58  
Henry Loppnow, RF '59  
Evan Schiller, RF '59  
David Schultz, RF '59

Robert Trinks, RF '59  
Orville K. Ulmer, RF '59  
Frederick Weiss, RF '59  
Douglas D. Williams, RF '59  
Herman C. Wills, RF '59  
Donald Wohlfeil, S '59

## RESOLUTIONS

### COMMITTEE 1—Seminaries and Colleges

#### Qualifying for the Ministry by Colloquy

##### RESOLUTION 1, COMMITTEE 1

##### Memorial 152, page 202, *Reports and Memorials*

*Resolved*, To approve the following "academic requirements" as a minimum program of training in the major fields of theology for those who wish to qualify for the ministry by colloquy:

- A. Exegetical Theology (five courses)
  - 1. Hermeneutics
  - 2. Old Testament Isagogics
  - 3. New Testament Isagogics
  - 4, 5. Two exegetical courses, one to be taken in residence
- B. Systematic Theology (four courses and two sets of assigned readings)
  - 1. Biblical Theology
  - 2. Dogmatics I
  - 3. Dogmatics II
  - one to be taken in residence
  - 4. The Confessions of the Lutheran Church
  - 5. Readings in the History of Dogma
  - 6. Readings in Comparative Symbolics
- C. Practical Theology (six courses)
  - 1. Elementary Homiletics
  - 2. Advanced Homiletics
  - one to be taken in residence
  - 3. Pastoral Theology
  - 4. Liturgics (to be taken in residence)
  - 5. Principles of Teaching
  - 6. Administration of Christian Education
- D. Historical Theology (two courses and one set of assigned readings)
  - 1. The Lutheran Reformation
  - 2. The Lutheran Church in America
  - 3. Readings Covering the Entire Span of Church History;and be it further

*Resolved*, That the report of the Committee on Colloquies be received with thanks.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.



**Report of Special Committee on Teacher Colloquies****RESOLUTION 2, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorial 153, pages 204—207, *Reports and Memorials***

*Resolved*, To approve the following suggested changes in the synodical *Handbook*:

**4.75 Committee Membership**

The Committee on Colloquies for the Teaching Ministry shall consist of a Vice-President of the Synod and the presidents of our synodical colleges offering a baccalaureate degree in teacher education.

**4.77 Functions**

The Committee on Colloquies for the Teaching Ministry shall —

a. direct the synodical activity in matters of colloquies for the teaching ministry according to regulations adopted by the Synod;

b. establish academic and theological standards for admission to the teaching ministry by means of colloquy. In the establishment of these standards, the faculties of the synodical colleges offering a baccalaureate degree in teacher education shall be consulted;

c. recommend applicants for acceptance into the teaching ministry of the Synod to the College of Presidents acting as a Board of Assignment.

**4.79 Applications Directed to District President**

Applications of persons desiring a colloquy for the teaching ministry shall be directed to the President of the District where application originates.

**4.81 Applicants Referred to Committee**

a. The District President, upon receipt of an application, shall transmit the application to the Committee on Colloquies. The application shall be accompanied by the following documents:

1. an autobiographical statement by the applicant, stating clearly his background, religious affiliation, training, and his reason for wishing to qualify for the teaching ministry in the Synod;

2. official transcripts of the applicant's secondary and collegiate training and a full description of noncredit academic work done by the applicant;

3. a recommendation from the Superintendent of Schools or

the chairman of the Board of Education of the District where application originates;

4. testimonials as to Christian character and life, personality, ability, and previous service from the applicant's pastor, and two references from a previous employer or people who have observed the applicant for at least two recent years.

b. The District President shall assure the Committee on Colloquies of his sponsorship of the applicant before the committee can act favorably on the application.

#### **4.83 Preliminary Examination and Publication of Applicant's Request**

a. The Committee on Colloquies shall evaluate the application and may arrange for a preliminary examination in the fundamentals of Christian knowledge.

b. On completion of the examination, the Committee on Colloquies shall:

1. ask the District President to publish in the official organs of the Synod the request of the applicant for a colloquy. If no valid objection is filed within four weeks after the notice of the application has been published, the colloquy program may proceed;

2. arrange for the appointment of an adviser to the applicant, who shall assist the applicant in arranging the appropriate qualifying program and, when all requirements of training have been met, recommend the applicant to the Committee on Colloquies for a final examination.

#### **4.85 Academic and Theological Requirements for the Colloquy**

Applicants for the colloquy shall be expected to complete the following academic and theological requirements before their final examination:

a. completion of a college program culminating in the baccalaureate degree;

b. completion of at least 18 semester or 27 quarter hours in education;

c. completion of at least 18 semester or 27 quarter hours in the areas of doctrine, Biblical interpretation, church history, and practice;

d. one year of successful teaching in a school within the Synod prior to permanent placement in the church, or student teaching under the supervision of a synodical college offering a baccalaureate degree in teacher education;

e. residence on a campus of a synodical college offering a baccalaureate degree in teacher education for at least one full quarter, either in the summer or during the school year.

**4.87 Requirements for Applicants with Full Standard Teacher Training**

a. Applicants who have completed a teacher-education program in institutions of churches not operated and maintained by the Synod shall give evidence that they fully understand and share the doctrinal standards of the Synod, are acquainted with its practice, and have ability and intention to teach and practice in conformity with these standards.

b. Before being recommended by the committee for acceptance into the teaching ministry of the Synod, the applicant shall be held to at least a full quarter of residence work at one of the synodical colleges offering a baccalaureate degree in teacher education, either in the summer or during the school year, and to one year of successful teaching in a school within the Synod prior to permanent placement in the church.

**4.89 The Final Examination**

a. The Committee on Colloquies shall arrange for a final written examination in areas previously specified for all applicants.

b. On successful completion of the written examination, the applicant shall take an oral examination at the direction of the Committee on Colloquies. The examiners shall be supplied with all necessary information on the applicant. Ordinarily the adviser shall participate in the final oral examination.

**4.91 Certificate of Eligibility**

Applicants who have satisfactorily passed their examination shall be given a certificate of eligibility by the committee, which shall also officially announce their eligibility for their first placement.

**4.93 Placement**

Every applicant whom the committee declares qualified for the teaching ministry shall be assigned his first placement by the College of Presidents meeting as a Board of Assignment.

Women teachers desiring to qualify as Lutheran teachers shall follow the same colloquy procedures as outlined for men and shall receive their first placement by the College of Presidents acting as the Board of Assignment.

**4.95 Report to Convention**

The committee shall render a full report of its activity to every convention of the Synod.

**4.97 Applications from Affiliated Church Bodies**

Applications coming from teachers or candidates for the teaching ministry who are members of an affiliated church body and

who have previously given satisfactory evidence of their qualification for a teaching position in the Synod may be received without examination.

#### 4.99 Teacher Colloquies in South American Field

Teacher colloquies in the two South American Districts shall also be conducted according to these regulations, adapted to requirements of the respective District, with a Vice-President of the District and the faculty engaged in teacher education constituting the Committee on Colloquies for Teachers, and a District Committee on Assignment taking care of the first placement.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Licensing Teachers to Preach

#### RESOLUTION 3, COMMITTEE 1

**Memorial 153, pages 207—209, *Reports and Memorials***

*Resolved*, That, when congregations desire that male Lutheran teachers be licensed to preach, the Synod establish the following requirements, effective Sept. 1, 1959:

1. The teachers under consideration shall be at least 30 years of age and shall have been in the service of the church for at least ten years.
2. They shall take at least two seminary courses in Biblical interpretation (exegesis), two courses in the art of preaching (homiletics), and a course in the art of worship (liturgics). One of the exegesis courses and one in homiletics shall be taken in residence, the others may be taken by correspondence.
3. They shall furnish the written request of their congregation that they be licensed to preach; also the testimonials of at least two pastors as to their standing in congregation and conference, as to the quality of their service in the church, and as to their character, theological understanding, good judgment, and similar qualifications.
4. They shall address their application (on blanks to be obtained from the District President), together with the testimonials, to the respective District President, whose endorsement shall be required and who shall forward the application to the Committee on Pastoral Colloquies, which shall guide the applicants in their studies, test their knowledge of the Scriptures and their skill in expounding and applying them, approve their ability to write and deliver acceptable sermons, and recommend them for a license to preach.
5. The license shall be issued by the respective District Presi-

dent upon recommendation of the Committee on Pastoral Colloquies and shall be granted for an initial period of two years for a specified place and type of work.

6. All preaching shall be done under the supervision of the teacher's pastor, who will regularly counsel with the teacher, read and discuss sermons in manuscript, hear the teacher preach occasionally, and before the expiration of the two years give a report to the District President on this work of the teacher.

7. At the end of two years, or for a new situation which may arise, the license may be renewed for a period not to exceed three years if the afore-mentioned report recommends it. Subsequent renewals shall be authorized for three-year periods.

The procedure of licensing to preach is not to be confused with the program leading to a colloquy for admission to the ministry by ordination, as presented in paragraph 4.61 of the *Handbook* of Synod; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the report of the special Committee on Teacher Colloquies be received and the committee be dismissed with thanks.

**Action:** This resolution was *tabled* until the new special committee which is to study theological issues affecting our schools of higher education has had an opportunity to report to the next convention.

### Exchange Study Program

#### Statement of Criteria

#### RESOLUTION 4, COMMITTEE 1

#### Memorial 162, pages 217—219, *Reports and Memorials*

The purpose of the program involves exchange arrangements of students, pastors, and professors for study and is intended to aid in better understanding between the church bodies and their schools of theology.

The selection of candidates for the grants from the funds made available will be based on service to the church, general qualifications of character, and scholastic skill.

In considering *pastors* it is held that the following matters be taken under advisement by the committee and be used as guidelines in the selection of candidates:

- a. Present position in church work, including a statement of previous positions held;
- b. Years of service in the church;
- c. Transcript of records indicating preparation for church work;
- d. Recommendation of someone in an official church capacity to characterize the candidate.

The following considerations are to be taken under advisement for the selection of *professors* as candidates under the program:

- a. For guest lectureships — lecturers be selected by host institutions who will apply to committee for specific speakers;
- b. Opportunities for advanced studies for professors in Synod's institutions in foreign fields with the following pertinent data to be submitted with each application, indicating:
  1. Years of service to the church;
  2. Transcript of credits indicating preparation for church work;
  3. Additional evidences of scholarship.

The following criteria are to be applied to *students*:

- a. Statement by the student indicating service he hopes to render to his church at home by this type of scholarship;
- b. Recommendation by the faculty including his scholastic attainment and character description as well as personal references which are to cover a student's character, seriousness of purpose, ability, and his leadership qualifications;
- c. Transcript of credits indicating his preparation for church work.

The financial assistance should be based on expenses involved for each candidate without regard to the support of his dependents or their possible travel and housing costs. If wife or children are involved, the candidate assumes the financial costs for their support or needs. In the case of students' travel expenses, only one-way fare will be provided plus housing, board, and tuition, together with minimum monthly allowance as pocket money.

In relation to the Board for Higher Education the following position has been established:

- a. The Board for Higher Education has as its responsibility the foreign students on the college level. The Exchange Study Program concerns itself only with seminary and graduate students, pastors, and professors who might be served on the exchange basis.
- b. The Board for Higher Education is concerned mainly with children of our missionaries in foreign countries who wish to serve our church in this country, and the Exchange Study Program concerns itself only with men who will return to their own country after receiving additional training in our seminary.
- c. The Exchange Study Program is to become a function of the Doctrinal Unity Committee in order to strengthen the bonds of fellowship as well as to seek to strengthen Lutheranism wherever opportunity offers.

It is also

*Recommended*, That because of the important contribution

which can be made to theological understanding and growth through the results of this program, the work and budget of the committee become a part of the duties of the Doctrinal Unity Committee of Synod. In this way a close liaison could be kept with this synodical effort to strengthen the bonds of fellowship as well as to seek to strengthen Lutheranism wherever opportunity offers; and it is further

*Recommended,* To dismiss the Exchange Study Committee with thanks.

**Action:** After several minor changes in wording had been made by Committee 1, the Statement of Criteria and the recommendations were *adopted*.

### **Administrative Adjustments and Policy Changes**

#### **RESOLUTION 5, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorial 120, Section F, pages 149—168, *Reports and Memorials***

*Resolved,* To approve the following changes in the synodical *Handbook*:

##### **1.59 Other Advisory Representatives**

b. Each of the Synod's educational institutions shall be represented at synodical conventions by its president. Each faculty is to elect representatives to enable each member to attend at least one out of three synodical conventions.

##### **4.22 Induction of Instructional Staff Members**

Candidates assigned to a synodical educational institution by the Board of Assignment shall be inducted into office in accordance with accepted Lutheran forms for that purpose and shall be solemnly pledged to the Scriptures as the inspired and inerrant Word of God and to the Symbolical Books of the Lutheran Church as a true exposition of the Scriptures. They may be ordained or installed respectively by the District President or his representative, upon application for membership in the Synod.

##### **6.07 Duties**

c. prescribe such student admission and transfer standards as are required in the interest of effective educational procedures, as are in harmony with the Synod's objectives of professional training, and commensurate with the purposes and capacities of the individual institutions;

f. provide for visits to the institutions and require stated reports from the boards of control, the presidents, and the faculties;

g. assess its need for professional staff, prescribe duties and

functions to each position, determine the qualifications necessary to fill the respective offices, and, with the approval of the President of the Synod, engage the necessary personnel;

o. provide professional guidance in harmony with the synodical Board of Parish Education to area Lutheran high school associations and to community Lutheran high schools;

p. have such additional powers, duties and jurisdiction as may from time to time be prescribed and authorized by resolution of the Synod.

#### 6.21 Personnel of Boards of Control

a. The Synod administers each educational institution through a Board of Control which is to provide effective local administrative organization, to facilitate the achievement of the purposes for which the Synod operates and maintains the respective institution, and to foster and safeguard its religious, academic, and financial interests in them.

b. Each Board of Control shall include in its membership the President of the synodical District in which the institution is located or his standing representative.

c. The elected Board of Control members, as set by the institution's charter or corporate articles, shall include:

1. one to three pastors
2. one or two teachers
3. three to five laymen.

d. The Boards of Control of the theological seminaries are to include a synodical Vice-President in their membership.

#### 6.23 Qualifications of Board Members

a. Pastors elected to Boards of Control are to be voting members of the Synod or advisory members who also hold membership in a voting congregation.

b. Teachers elected to Boards of Control are to be advisory members of the Synod and hold membership in a voting congregation of the Synod.

c. Laymen elected to Boards of Control are to be members of voting congregations of the Synod.

d. Board membership is to be broadly representative of the Synod and preferably is to include representation from more than one synodical District. Not more than two of the total elected membership shall hold membership in the same congregation.

e. Lay members of the Board of Control are to be engaged in a variety of occupations.



f. Members of the Board of Control shall not be on the salaried staff of a synodical educational institution, nor shall they enter into gainful business contracts or relations with the institution.

#### **6.25 Election and Appointment of Members**

a. The President of the Synod shall designate the synodical Vice-President who is to be a member of the Board of Control of a theological seminary.

b. The President of a District in which a synodical institution is located shall be a member of its Board of Control. He may designate one of his Vice-Presidents as his standing representative.

c. Other board members shall be elected by the synodical convention. These members shall number no fewer than five and no more than nine, with the number fixed by the institution's charter or corporate articles. The regular terms of office shall be for nine years and shall be so arranged that the terms of one third of the elected members shall expire at each regular synodical convention.

d. Between regular synodical conventions, Boards of Control shall fill any vacancies occurring in their elected membership with the approval of the synodical President.

#### **6.31 The Board's Executive**

The authority and responsibility of the Board of Control shall reside in the board as a whole. The board shall delegate the application of its policies and the execution of its resolutions to the president of the institution as its executive officer.

#### **6.33 Board of Control Meetings**

a. The Board of Control shall meet at regular intervals. With special meetings, it shall meet not fewer than five times each year.

b. The president of the institution shall attend Board of Control meetings in an advisory capacity. The president may, with the board's consent, occasionally ask other institutional officers to assist in special reporting as needed.

#### **6.35 Board of Control Organization**

a. Each Board of Control shall elect a chairman, a vice-chairman, a secretary, and any other officer whom its charter or corporate articles may require.

b. Each Board of Control may appoint necessary standing and special committees which shall be accountable to it.

#### **6.37 Relation to Synod and Legal Capacity**

e. The charter, articles of incorporation, or constitution and bylaws of each institution shall conform to, and be consistent with,

those of the Synod. Changes in them shall receive the prior consent of the Board for Higher Education and, where applicable in property and finance matters, of the Board of Directors.

#### 6.39 General Functions and Duties

a. The Board of Control shall make certain that the work of the institution entrusted to its care is carried on effectively, in accordance with the theological and academic standards of the Synod. To this end it shall require regular and special reports from the president as its executive officer, or from other officers, instructional staff members, or employees of the institution through him, and through formal and informal tours of the campus and attendance at its activities.

b. The Board of Control shall be responsible for the educational program and shall see that the curriculum approved by the Board for Higher Education for the respective institution is in effect.

c. The Board of Control shall be responsible for the general welfare of its instructional staff members and other employees, for their working conditions, and for the proper housing of instructional staff members. It shall adopt standards and regulations governing the off-campus activities of instructional staff members and other employees of the institution. It shall develop policies to include salary and wage scales, provisions for tenure, promotion, vacations, periodic health examinations, sick and service leaves, dismissal, retirement and pension, and other employee welfare and benefit provisions.

d. The Board of Control shall be responsible for the general welfare of the students of its institution, adequacy of their housing and boarding facilities, the health service available to them, the appropriateness of the cocurricular activities, as well as the off-campus interests, activities, and employment of the students.

e. The Board of Control shall be responsible for the efficient business management of its institution, in accord with the system of accounting and business practices and records as may be prescribed by the Board for Higher Education in consultation with the Board of Directors. The board shall exercise its responsibility in this area through a business manager appointed by it upon recommendation of the president of the institution and responsible to him. The business manager shall keep accurate accounts of all moneys, goods, property, and assets entrusted to his care. He shall regularly deposit all moneys of the institution and its agencies in a bank or banks designated by the Board of Control, submit his books and records for inspection and audit, and furnish bond to

the Synod for the faithful performance of his duties in such amount as shall be determined by the synodical Board of Directors and at its expense.

f. The Board of Control shall be responsible for the condition of the physical property of its respective institution and shall operate, manage, control, and supervise the property, grounds, buildings, and equipment, and maintain the same in good repair and efficiency. It shall submit reports regarding property and maintenance annually, or upon request, to the Board for Higher Education for reference to the Board of Directors as custodians of the Synod's property.

g. The Board of Control shall carefully supervise the collection and disbursement of all funds raised by students for student activities as well as the funds derived from the college store and other agencies and sources.

#### **6.53 The Faculty**

a. The faculty of each synodical educational institution shall consist of the president, the administrative officers holding instructional rank, and the regular instructional staff members.

b. Special lecturers and substitute teachers shall hold advisory membership in the faculty.

#### **6.59 Faculty Organization and Meetings**

a. Instructional staff size or special synodical responsibilities may lead to the organization of a faculty senate. The faculty senate shall consist of the president, the faculty members with tenure, and those administrative officers whom the Board of Control may designate.

b. Faculty and faculty senate meetings shall be held at regular intervals.

c. Special meetings of the faculty or of the faculty senate may be called by the president.

d. In the president's absence, the designated acting president shall preside at regular and special meetings.

e. The faculty shall elect a secretary and necessary standing committees, and may provide for special committees.

f. Standing committees shall study, evaluate, and report to the faculty on policy matters affecting the academic activity of the institution and life and welfare of its students.

#### **6.61 Institutional Educational Policies**

a. Each faculty shall adopt rules and regulations for the admission, transfer, dismissal, or withdrawal of students, fix the standards of scholarship to be maintained by students, determine

criteria for their promotion, graduation, or failure, act on recommendations in the matter of granting certificates, diplomas, and such academic or honorary degrees as may be conferred lawfully by the institution.

b. Each faculty shall develop and construct curricula implementing the recognized and established purposes of the institution and designed to attain the synodically approved objectives of training for professional church workers. Each faculty shall pursue the improvement of teaching and learning and the evaluation of their effectiveness in every segment of the institution and its curriculum.

c. Each faculty shall develop policies, standards, and programs for the out-of-class life and activity of its students so that the co-curricular and off-campus activities of the student contribute to the attainment of the educational objectives of the institution. The faculty shall draw up such standards, criteria, and regulations as will be conducive to the cultivation of a Christian deportment on the part of all students, will stimulate the creation of a cultured and academically challenging atmosphere on and about the whole campus, and will make a spiritually wholesome common life possible.

d. Each faculty shall develop policies, standards, and regulations contributing to wholesome conditions of instructional staff service and welfare.

e. The faculty of each institution which trains professional workers directly for service in the Synod shall conform its placement policies to the synodical provisions for distribution of candidates and workers through the synodical Board of Assignment.

#### **6.63 Institutional Policy Formation**

a. The regulations, standards, criteria, policies, programs and curricula developed and adopted by each synodical faculty are to be submitted for approval to the respective Board of Control.

b. Upon approval, such regulations, standards, criteria, policies, programs, and curricula are to be administered and applied by the administrative officers of the institution.

c. The Board for Higher Education shall periodically review the institutional policies, programs, and curricula to determine whether they are consistent with the stated objectives of the Synod's educational system and its institutions.

#### **6.65 Evangelical Discipline and the Right of Appeal**

The Board of Control and the faculty are to develop, formulate, promote, and foster ideals, standards, and criteria of personal conduct and of the common life of the campus, worthy of the Christian calling and of ministers in training for the church. Each student, together with His parents and advisers, deserves to know what

the disciplinary procedure is and under what conditions and to whom an appeal may be made. Ordinarily the proper line of appeal is from the student's counselor, by way of the dean of students, to the president.

**6.71 Sabbatical Leave and Leave of Absence**

a. The Board of Control, with approval of the Board for Higher Education, may grant any member of the institutional staff who has served ten years at synodical institutions a sabbatical leave for one-half year with pay or for an entire year with half pay, to pursue advanced studies in his special field of work, or any other acceptable program of experience or research.

**6.79 Modified Service and Retirement**

a. The president of a synodical institution may relinquish his presidential responsibilities at the end of the school year in which he attains the age of 60. He shall be relieved of his presidential responsibility at the end of the school year in which he reaches the age of 67.

b. Administrative officers of a synodical institution ordinarily shall not be reappointed to their positions after they reach the age of 65.

Continued administrative service after that shall be on the basis of annual appointment.

c. Former presidents shall hold the rank of professor.

d. Faculty members may be honorably retired or transferred to modified service at the age of 65, and shall be so retired or transferred to modified service at the age of 72.

e. Service loads and conditions of service after age 65 shall be modified according to individual capacity and shall be determined by the Board of Control in consultation with the Board for Higher Education.

**6.81 Incompetency, Neglect, or Incapacity**

The Board of Control, after due investigation of the facts and circumstances and after consultation with the Board for Higher Education, may relieve of his office any member of the administrative or teaching staff of any institution who is manifestly and demonstrably incompetent or neglectful of his office or incapacitated for the successful performance of his duties because of physical, mental, or emotional disabilities. In such event the Board of Control may continue his salary until he receives a call, but not exceeding six months, or may render such other financial assistance as the necessities of the case may require.

**6.83 Refusal to Co-operate, Willful Neglect, Unbecoming Conduct, False Doctrine**

The Board of Control shall duly investigate all the facts and circumstances and shall refer its findings to the electors when a member of the administrative or teaching staff of any institution is to be formally charged with contumacious refusal to co-operate with the president and the faculty of the institution and officers and boards of the Synod to an extent that will injure or interfere with the purpose and objectives of the institution, or of willful neglect of official duties, or of conduct unbecoming a Christian, or of promulgation of, and adherence to, false doctrine. If the electors shall find such person guilty of the offenses complained of, he shall be relieved of his office. His salary shall thereupon be discontinued, and he shall promptly vacate his residence if it is owned by the Synod.

**6.91 Authority and Duties**

b. He shall supervise, direct, and administer the affairs of the institution in all its departments pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Synod and its boards and agencies, and the policies of his Board of Control.

i. He shall carefully watch over the spiritual welfare, personal life, conduct, educational progress, and physical condition of the students and, in general, exercise such Christian discipline, instruction, and supervision as may be expected at a Christian educational institution.

j. He shall be responsible for the employment, direction, and supervision of all employees of the institution.

k. He shall be responsible for the business management of the school and for the proper operation and maintenance of grounds, buildings, and equipment. He shall make periodic and special financial reports to the Board of Control.

**6.93 Acting President**

The Board of Control shall designate a faculty member of the institution as acting president to serve in case of the president's absence, his temporary incapacity, or a vacancy in the office.

**6.111 Status and Parish Experience of Candidates**

a. Candidates for teaching and administrative positions as associate professors and professors on the Synod's instructional staffs shall be graduates of a synodical theological seminary or teachers college or have achieved the status of Lutheran pastor or teacher by means of colloquy or have acquired similar status in a church body in fellowship with the Synod.

b. Candidates shall be expected to have several years' experience in the active parish ministry or parish school work. When, exceptionally, associate professors or professors are called to the faculties without having had experience in the parish, they shall be required to gain such experience if they are seminary or teachers college graduates, by assistant pastorates or a program of equivalent parish experience approved by the Board of Control upon recommendation of the president.

#### 6.145 Budget for Operation of Institutions

b. A detailed estimate of the income, costs of operations, maintenance and repair, student-work funds, replacement of equipment, contingency fund, and all other costs shall be prepared each year by each Board of Control and submitted to the Board for Higher Education on or before April 1. After the consideration thereof, the Board for Higher Education shall transmit its synodical subsidy proposals to the Board of Directors for recommendation and reference to the Fiscal Conference, which shall then fix the subsidy for the synodical educational institutions.

#### 6.146 Budget Adjustments

b. Each Board of Control, upon recommendation of its president, may undertake necessary transfers of current budget funds from one classification to another within the institution's synodical budget allocation, up to, but not exceeding, the amount of \$100.00 per transfer. Notification of this internal transfer of synodical funds is to be conveyed in duplicate copy to the Board for Higher Education and the Synod's fiscal office. Greater amounts may be transferred from one account to another with prior approval of the Board for Higher Education.

#### 6.147 Budget for Capital Improvements, etc.

The Board of Control, in the month of January preceding each synodical convention, on the basis of comprehensive space-utilization data and a program of requirements, shall submit to the Board for Higher Education proposals for major repairs, capital improvements, and equipment for the succeeding six-year period, indicating a suggested priority listing and time schedule for construction. After due consideration thereof, the Board for Higher Education, after consultation with the Board of Directors, shall submit the proposals with its recommendations to the President of the Synod for action at the convention.

#### 6.161 Special Academic Programs

a. The educational institutions of the Synod may be authorized by the Board for Higher Education to conduct summer schools under the direction of the respective Board of Control and faculty

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for regular and special students and for the in-service education of pastors and teachers.

b. The terminal institutions of the Synod may be authorized by the Board for Higher Education to conduct schools for graduate studies or correspondence schools under the direction of the respective Boards of Control and faculties for regular and special students and for the in-service education of pastors and teachers.

c. The Board for Higher Education shall help the institutions operating approved summer schools, schools for graduate studies, or correspondence schools to secure teaching personnel, to prepare adequate curricula and programs of studies, to co-ordinate the programs of the various institutions offering such special programs, and to assist in the financial support of these programs where this becomes necessary.

#### **6.162 The Transfer Student**

A qualified student applying for admission to an educational institution of the Synod, after previous attendance at another synodical institution, shall be admitted only after the admitting institution has received proper credentials, cumulative records, and a favorable recommendation from the president of the synodical institution which the student last attended.

#### **6.163 Placement of Church Workers in the Synod**

a. Every regular student, special supply student, vicar, or graduate of an authorized synodical institution or approved synodical training program declared qualified for placement shall be assigned a first placement by the College of Presidents acting as a Board of Assignment.

b. Students who for any reasons have not completed their program of studies at the Synod's educational institutions shall not be eligible for temporary or permanent engagement by congregations, or other agencies within the Synod, without the consent and approval of the respective faculty and District President. The faculties of the Synod's terminal schools shall consider applications for temporary supply work by their students only when such applications have received prior approval of the respective District President.

c. Theological students shall do internship as vicars, ordinarily in the second year before seminary graduation.

d. Candidates eligible for calls are students who have completed the prescribed courses of studies, have received their diplomas from their respective institutions, and have in every



respect been declared qualified by the faculties for their specific type of service in the church.

e. Women graduates of Synod's teachers colleges or women who have given satisfactory evidence of having met the minimum requirements of the Synod are eligible for teaching positions in the schools of the church and shall receive their teaching placement through the Board of Assignment.

f. A graduate of one of the Synod's terminal schools who desires to continue his professional studies after he has completed the prescribed undergraduate curriculum or who for another valid reason is not ready for his first placement in the church shall continue to be eligible for unqualified recommendation for placement as long as he can be recommended by the faculty of the institution from which he has graduated. The respective faculty is expected annually to ascertain through personal interviews with the candidate or through satisfactory testimonials that each candidate so classified is still qualified for recommendation for regular placement in the church.

**6.167 Concordia Seminary at Springfield**

The admissions policies of Concordia Seminary, Springfield, shall be determined by the faculty of the Springfield institution in concurrence with the Board of Control and the Board for Higher Education and should be reviewed periodically in the light of the needs of the church.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

## **Appraisal of Retirement Plan**

### **RESOLUTION 6, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorial 516, pages 466—468, *Reports and Memorials***

**WHEREAS**, Eighteen years have elapsed since the Synod instituted a mandatory retirement program for those who teach and administer in her educational institutions; and

**WHEREAS**, The lengthening interval between the initiation of the program in higher education and its broader application to called or appointed personnel constitutes an embarrassment to those who are required to administer the program and an inequity to those who are required to conform to it; and

**WHEREAS**, It is the considered conclusion of those who have administered this program over the years that the plan has operated in the best interest of the Synod; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we petition the Synod to make the necessary arrangement for an objective appraisal of its own experience with

the retirement plan over the past eighteen years, as well as the experience of other church bodies in this matter, by directing the President of the Synod to appoint a committee instructed to report its findings to the convention of 1962, together with recommendations and plans for an expanded use of the current policy or its abandonment after the coming triennium; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the committee consist of six members, including one representative from the Board of Directors, one representative from the Board for Higher Education, one lay representative from the membership of the Boards of Control, one college or seminary president, and two pastors of voting congregations in the Synod.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Election to Faculties of Synod's Educational Institutions**

#### **RESOLUTION 7, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorial 149, pages 197—198, *Reports and Memorials***

*Resolved*, That adoption of *Handbook* change 6.111, page 163, *Reports and Memorials*, takes care of Memorial 149, pages 197—198.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Establishing Summer Schools and Graduate Studies Programs at California Concordia College**

#### **RESOLUTION 8, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorial 138, pages 189—190, *Reports and Memorials***

*Resolved*, That adoption of *Handbook* change 6.161, page 165, *Reports and Memorials*, takes care of Memorial 138, pages 189—190.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Term of Office of the St. Louis Dean of Students**

#### **RESOLUTION 9, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorial 120, Section F, page 169, *Reports and Memorials***

*Resolved*, To commend Dean L. C. Wuerffel of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, for his offer to have his term of office as an administrative officer conform to the regulations now applying to other appointive administrative posts; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Synod instruct the Board of Control of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, to make the necessary adjustments

to have the office of the dean of students, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, conform to present practices regarding administrative positions held by renewable appointments.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Synodical Tuitions and Scholarships

#### RESOLUTION 10, COMMITTEE 1

**Memorial 120, Section F, pages 169—170, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, In the last six years the problem of effective and satisfactory collection of synodical tuitions has been greatly complicated by the rapid increase in the number of students who attend two or three synodical institutions in the course of their training for the pastoral office or for the teaching profession; be it

*Resolved:*

a) That synodical tuition for one year be assessed and collected from every student at the time of first enrollment in a synodical high school, college, or seminary;

b) That successful completion of a year of training and maintenance of professional training status acts as a credit on the completed year and as prepayment on the year following through the length of the student's stay in the synodical system of training;

c) That a successful student can thus, with a one-time payment, come to the end of his training and be ready for entrance into the church's service with a credit;

d) That at this point, and at the option of the graduate, the payment may be refunded in full or be credited as advance payment of pension premiums after acceptance of a call and installation in office;

e) That in the case of any student who discontinues before graduation, the synodical tuition collected and on deposit with the Treasurer of the Synod is not refundable;

f) That in the case of nontheological and non-teacher-training students who may continue in a synodical school for several years, the payment of the synodical tuition continues to be an annual charge;

g) That this practice is to become effective with each student as he enters a synodical school, effective with September 1960;

h) That all interest and other income derived from the funds so deposited is to be used for the same purposes as the fund itself.

**Action:** After several clarifying phrases had been added and several words deleted, the resolution as printed above was *adopted*.

**Parish Education Center on St. Louis  
Seminary Campus**

**RESOLUTION 11, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorial 120, Section F, page 171, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Resolution 26 of Committee 1 of the 1956 convention authorized the Board of Directors of the Synod to effect a 30-year lease with the Clayton Lutheran School Association on a stipulated portion of the campus of the St. Louis seminary; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors of the Clayton Lutheran School Association has indicated that the original plans would not become a reality for some years; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That under the circumstances, Synod rescind Resolution 26 of Committee 1 (pp. 135 and 136, 1956 *PROCEEDINGS*) of the 1956 convention.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Theological Issues Currently Affecting Synodical  
Higher Education**

**RESOLUTION 12, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorial 120, Section A, pages 101—102, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, There is a real need to study and evaluate many theological issues which affect synodical higher education; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Board for Higher Education, in consultation with the President of the Synod, appoint a special commission to prepare a comprehensive, normative statement of relevant principles regarding theological issues affecting synodical higher education, especially those enumerated on pages 101—102 of *Reports and Memorials*, 1959; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this commission report to the next convention of the Synod.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Student Recruitment for the Church Professions**

**RESOLUTION 13, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorial 120, Section B, pages 102—110, *Reports and Memorials*;  
Unprinted Memorial 168**

WHEREAS, There is growing evidence that the Lord of the church has richly blessed our Synod's recruitment program as is shown in the increase in the enrollment of students preparing for professional service in the church; and

WHEREAS, The short-range and long-range projections, prepared for and by the Board for Higher Education, indicate the critical need of an adequate supply of professional church workers; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we commend all those who have been actively engaged in this recruitment program; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we urge all Districts to continue an active program of selective recruitment; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That we request District recruitment committees to furnish annual reports to the Board for Higher Education for evaluation and guidance of the program.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Scholarship Screening Service

#### RESOLUTION 14, COMMITTEE 1

##### Memorial 120, Section B, page 106, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, Available funds for all forms of educational assistance should be distributed wisely; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we request District recruitment committees and the synodical colleges and seminaries to use the scholarship screening service available through the Board for Higher Education; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we encourage congregations to provide assistance for students preparing for professional service in the church and to administer such aid in accordance with the "Guidelines for Congregational Aid to Students for the Church Professions" available from the District recruitment committee.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Granting Special Scholarships for Graduates of Lutheran High Schools

#### RESOLUTION 15, COMMITTEE 1

##### Memorial 160, page 215, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, Resolution 5 of Committee 1 at the 1956 convention (p. 121 of 1956 *PROCEEDINGS*) broadened the scope of the scholarship program; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we respectfully decline Memorial 160, page 215, *Reports and Memorials*.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Three Years of Record Student Enrollments

#### RESOLUTION 16, COMMITTEE 1

**Memorial 120, Section B, pages 106—111, *Reports and Memorials***

*Resolved*, That in gratitude to Almighty God the Synod express its appreciation to the congregations, pastors, and teachers who in each of the past three years have helped the colleges and seminaries to enroll record-breaking numbers of students, even as we also gratefully acknowledge the fact that the greater proportion of our enrolled students are determined in their mind and heart to prepare for lifelong service to God in His church; and be it further

*Resolved*, That in recognition of the continuing need for ever greater numbers of competent and consecrated students, particularly those congregations which have not yet been able to send students from their midst, be urged to intensify their recruitment efforts.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Student Recruitment and Congregational Stewardship of Talented Persons

#### RESOLUTION 17, COMMITTEE 1

**Memorial 120, Section B, page 103, paragraph 3, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Congregational recruitment for church vocations is often influenced by the quality of stewardship of talented persons in the congregation; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod urge its members, especially its pastors and teachers, to a proper emphasis on the Lutheran doctrine of Christian vocation in everyday life and the practice of the stewardship of talented persons, with special reference to the early identification of those persons and their spiritual guidance.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Curriculum of Colleges and Seminaries

#### RESOLUTION 18, COMMITTEE 1

**Memorial 147, page 196, Unprinted Memorials 172 and 174**

WHEREAS, The curricular changes caused by the introduction of the Senior College in the educational system have gone into effect only recently; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod request its Board for Higher Education and the Curriculum Commission to report in detail at the next convention on the nature and scope of the synodical curricula; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Board for Higher Education and the Curriculum Commission consider related memorials (147, page 196, Unprinted Memorials 172 and 174) and other communications when making their study and report.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Procedure of Calling or Appointing Instructional Personnel

#### RESOLUTION 19, COMMITTEE 1

Memorial 149, page 197, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 150, page 198, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 151, page 199, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 513, page 464, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 515, page 465, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The Synod has previously recognized the validity of the reasons for suggesting a change in procedure and the laudable objectives of removing some of the delays attached to the present system of calling men to faculty positions; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Board for Higher Education be instructed to continue its study of the procedure of calling or appointing instructional personnel at the Synod's colleges and seminaries and to attempt to develop suitable procedures for presentation to the Synod at the next convention; and be it further

*Resolved*, That any procedure continue to safeguard the interest of the Synod, the college administrations, and the persons asked by the Synod to serve at her colleges and seminaries; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Board for Higher Education explore various ways and means of advancement of faculty personnel from one rank to the next, including permanent tenure as well as intra-system transfers; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the procedures provide for emergency action so that undue delays in staffing be avoided.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

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## Revising Procedure of Calling or Appointing Instructional Personnel

### RESOLUTION 20, COMMITTEE 1

Memorial 151, pages 199—201, *Reports and Memorials*

This resolution was *withdrawn* by request of Committee 1—Seminaries and Colleges, and the matter referred to was covered by Resolution 19 of Committee 1.

## Authority of Board of Directors to Acquire or Sell

### RESOLUTION 21, COMMITTEE 1

WHEREAS, It may become necessary, consistent with the policy of expanding our facilities for ministerial training, for the Synod to purchase property for expanded or additional campuses, and to sell, trade or otherwise dispose of unimproved campus sites; and

WHEREAS, The Synod's Board of Directors is the legal representative and agent of the Synod in such transactions; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.79 (o) of the synodical *Handbook* may be construed to limit the authority of the Synod's Board of Directors to enter into and consummate said transactions, particularly where property to be sold may have been used in connection with the educational facilities of Synod; therefore be it

#### *Resolved:*

1) That Synod's Board of Directors, between synodical conventions be, and the same is hereby, authorized to enter into contracts of purchase, sale, or exchange of real estate in connection with the Synod's colleges and seminaries; and

2) That said Board, through its duly authorized officers, is hereby empowered and authorized to execute such contracts, documents, and deeds of conveyance as may be necessary to consummate said transactions; and

3) That no person dealing with said Board shall be required to inquire into the authority of said Board and its officers to enter into said contracts and/or conveyances.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

## Classification by Urgency and Source of Funds for Capital Investments at Synodical Schools

### RESOLUTION 22, COMMITTEE 1

Memorial 120, Section E, pages 138—143, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, Good stewardship demands wise planning and co-operative consultation in the expenditure of funds for capital investments at synodical schools; therefore be it



*Resolved*, That the Synod approve the classification of projects, and the tabular listings as recommended by the Board for Higher Education, pages 138—143 of *Reports and Memorials*, and revised by Committee 1 as indicated in the following resolutions; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Synod authorize the Board for Higher Education to recommend to the Board of Directors of the Synod whatever adjustments within these listings of allocation priorities, other actions of this convention or unexpected circumstances and developments in the intervening years make necessary or desirable; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Synod adopt the following revisions in the classification of projects and the tabular listing:

a) Fort Wayne — add Fine Arts Facilities E, II, Column 3, \$100,000;

b) Oakland — Gymnasium, move \$300,000 from column 4 to column 1;

c) St. Louis — Conversion of Present Library, move \$183,200 from column 5 to column 3; Tennis Courts, move \$27,100 from column 8 to column 7;

d) St. Paul — add Conversion of South Building E, I, column 3, \$50,000;

e) Springfield — Administration Building, move \$200,000 from column 4 to column 3;

f) Winfield — Present Physical Education Building Conversion, strike \$160,000, column 5, insert \$80,000 in column 3; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Synod recognize the need for providing some housing for married students at the seminaries at St. Louis and Springfield and, upon recommendation of the Board for Higher Education and Board of Directors, the Treasurer of the Synod be authorized to borrow necessary funds for the acquisition or construction of suitable facilities, these loans and necessary interest to be repaid from rental income or other nonbudgetary sources; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the Synod thank all those who have made special contributions to its synodical schools, especially the members of the Minnesota District for their contributions to Concordia College, St. Paul, and the members of the Northern Illinois District for their action regarding the gathering of \$875,000 for the erection of a chapel-auditorium on the River Forest campus, and that we encourage them to continue their wholehearted support of this project.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

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**Capital Fund Inclusion for the Next Six Years for  
the Colleges and Seminaries Under the Jurisdiction  
of the Board for Higher Education**

**RESOLUTION 23, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorial 120, Section E, pages 146—147, *Reports and Memorials***

*Resolved*, That the Synod authorize for recommendation to the next three fiscal conferences the following appropriations for capital investment in educational plants

For the fiscal year 1960 — \$2,400,000

For the fiscal year 1961 — \$2,650,000

For the fiscal year 1962 — \$2,900,000;

and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Synod receive the report of the following estimates of annual budget appropriations for capital investment in educational plants which the Board for Higher Education now believes it may recommend to Synod for approval in 1962

For the fiscal year 1963 — \$3,175,000

For the fiscal year 1964 — \$3,465,000

For the fiscal year 1965 — \$3,800,000

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Extension of Authority for Capital Fund Borrowing**

**RESOLUTION 24, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorial 120, Section E, page 144, *Reports and Memorials***

This resolution was *withdrawn*, since Resolution 23 of Committee 11 covered this subject.

**Commendation**

**RESOLUTION 25, COMMITTEE 1**

**Special Resolution**

**WHEREAS**, The Lord of the church has granted special blessings in the area of higher education through many people; and

**WHEREAS**, Grateful people should give thanks to God for faithful service rendered in His kingdom; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we give thanks to God for the dedicated and faithful services of all those who have been engaged in the work of higher education, especially the Board for Higher Education, its

Executive Secretary, Doctor W. F. Wolbrecht, and his associates, the members of the boards of control, and the faculties of our colleges and seminaries.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Raising Minimal Requirements for Preparation of Woman Teachers**

#### **RESOLUTION 26, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorial 120, Section D, pages 131—132, Reports and Memorials**

Joint Recommendation of Committees 1 and 4

**WHEREAS**, Education in general and Christian education in particular are too important and the consequences for the lives of God's children are too far-reaching to be entrusted to undertrained teachers; and

**WHEREAS**, The requests for women teachers demonstrate clearly that our Lutheran elementary schools are increasingly requiring women teachers with a baccalaureate degree; and

**WHEREAS**, The minimum educational standard for male teachers is already a baccalaureate degree from one of the Synod's teachers colleges or its equivalent by colloquy; and

**WHEREAS**, The educational requirements of the teaching profession and the certification requirements of the states in which our Lutheran teachers serve are rising rapidly and already 39 states require four years of professional preparation for certification; therefore be it

#### **Resolved:**

1. That the Synod continue to educate all male teachers, and as many as possible of the women teachers for its Lutheran schools; and

2. That the women students entering the teacher education program in September 1959 be the last class placed as so-called "seventy-hour women students" or St. John's, Winfield, "Graduates" (1961 placement); and

3. That the women students entering in September 1960 and 1961 be placed by the Synod upon completion of a minimum of three years of professional training (1963 and 1964 placement); and

4. That the women students entering in September 1962 be placed by the Synod upon completion of the baccalaureate degree requirements (1966 placement); and

5. That women now in service without a baccalaureate degree

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be urged to continue their in-service education until they have fulfilled degree requirements and the standards of the church; and

6. That congregations and District Boards of Education be made coresponsible for the continued in-service education of their undergraduate teachers, and

7. That the Synod encourage all women students now in the colleges or entering after September 1959 to complete their degree program voluntarily before their first assignment; and

8. That the Synod grant authority to the Board of Assignment to place women teachers with two years plus one full quarter of professional preparation in the 1962 placement and women teachers with three years plus one full quarter of professional preparation in the 1965 placement in those congregations which can and will accept their services, since the gradual upgrading of minimal standards may result in marked shortages of available teachers in these years of transition.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Report of the Committee on the Centennial of Formal Teacher Training**

#### **RESOLUTION 27, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorial 164, page 221, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Committee on the Centennial of Formal Teacher Training worked diligently to make the church aware of the blessings of teacher training in the last century and to alert the church to the important and blessed task of training an ever greater number of consecrated teachers for service in church and school; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the report of the Committee on the Centennial of Formal Teacher Training be accepted and the Committee released with thanks.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Accreditation**

#### **RESOLUTION 28, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorial 120, Section D, page 136, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Concordia College, St. Paul, Minn., has recently achieved accreditation with the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod commend Concordia College, Saint Paul, Minn., for the achievement of this accreditation on the college level; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the other synodical junior colleges be urged to seek regional accreditation under the direction of the Board for Higher Education.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

### The Opening, the Dedication, and the First Commencement of Concordia Senior College of Fort Wayne

#### RESOLUTION 29, COMMITTEE 1

##### *Memorial 120, page 115, Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, After many years of planning, Concordia Senior College, Fort Wayne, has been privileged to graduate its first class and to recommend these young men for further training at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod thank Almighty God for guiding the planning, construction, staffing, and current operation of Concordia Senior College as a new and integral part of the ministerial training system of the Synod; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Synod implore God's continued blessings on Concordia Senior College for the years to come; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the Synod thank the Lord of the church for restoring the health of the first president of Concordia Senior College, Dr. Martin J. Neeb, and implore for him continued health and service to the college and the Synod.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

### Selling Portion of Concordia Senior College Campus for Dual-Lane Highway

#### RESOLUTION 30, COMMITTEE 1

##### *Memorial 145, pages 194—195, Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The Highway Department of the State of Indiana has announced its intention to improve State Route 427 by building a dual-lane highway along the entire west frontage of the campus of Concordia Senior College in Fort Wayne; and

WHEREAS, The contemplated improvement will require the State of Indiana to acquire right-of-way involving a portion of the campus of Concordia Senior College in Fort Wayne; and

WHEREAS, The constitutional provisions of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod require specific authorization of a syn-

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odical convention for the legal sale of any property which is a part of, or adjacent to, a college or seminary campus of the Synod; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That in accordance with the provisions of *Handbook* Sec. 2.75; 2.79 h; 2.79 o; 6.37 a; and 6.37 b, authority be, and hereby is, conveyed to the Board of Directors of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and to the Board of Control of Concordia Senior College, Inc., of Fort Wayne, Ind., to sell and convey to the State of Indiana or its appropriate and authorized agencies, at such price or consideration and upon such terms and conditons as in the opinion of the Board of Directors and the Board of Control of Concordia Senior College would best serve the interest of Synod, such portion of the present campus of Concordia Senior College, Inc., as may be required for purposes of improvement of the highway contiguous to the present boundary of the campus of Concordia Senior College, Inc.; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the authority here conveyed be effective immediately upon the completion of favorable action on this resolution by The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, assembled in triennial convention at San Francisco, Calif., June 17—27, 1959; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the proceeds of said sale be added to the capital fund of the Board for Higher Education.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Reorganization of the Synodical Education System in Brazil**

#### **RESOLUTION 31, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorials 116, 117, 118, 119, pages 92—99, *Reports and Memorials*  
Memorials 163, page 219; 165, page 224, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Brazil District in its most recent convention, after intensive and extensive study of the needs and possibilities of recruitment and education of pastors and teachers, accepted a basic plan of reorganization and requests the approval of this synodical convention; and

WHEREAS, The Board for Missions in North and South America and Floor Committee 2 of this convention have examined the problems and proposals and concur in the basic plan of reorganization; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod hereby accept this basic plan of reorganization; and be it further

*Resolved*, That, according to this plan,

a. the theological department (Seminario Concordia) be separated from the pretheological department (Collegio Concordia) in plant, budget, and administration, with the seminary continuing to use the Porto Alegre campus, and that the pretheological and the teacher-training course be transferred to the new campus in Sao Leopoldo after early construction of the planned new campus buildings;

b. the theological program consist of four years, including a required vicarage or internship year;

c. coeducation be approved for the teacher-training course;

d. the earlier plans for a teacher-training course in Sao Paulo be postponed indefinitely;

e. the Instituto Concordia operating in rented quarters in Rio de Janeiro be transferred to the Sao Paulo campus and the Rio de Janeiro site be studied further professionally before final determination of its ultimate use is made;

f. the synodical high schools and the parish high schools be urged to recruit intensively for future pastors and teachers;

g. the District Board of Higher Education and the Board of Missions in North and South America approve details of this plan as developed by the Boards of Control;

h. necessary capital funds for remodeling (e. g., Hartmeister Hall in Porto Alegre) and for new campus development at Sao Leopoldo and Sao Paulo and for site study at Rio de Janeiro be provided in the budgets of the Board for Missions in North and South America for Brazil;

i. the construction, moving, staffing, and curricular reorganization proceed as nearly as feasible with the indicated schedule; and

j. certification of our teachers and administrators and state approval of the regular teacher-training program be sought.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Boards of Control of Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo**

#### **RESOLUTION 32, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorial 118, pages 97—98, Reports and Memorials**

**Memorial 119, pages 98—99, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, The members of the Board of Control of Rio de Janeiro have felt constrained to resign their office and the Synod has postponed indefinitely the development of the teacher-training program for which it elected the Board of Control at Sao Paulo; and

WHEREAS, The Synod has adopted new regulations governing the membership of Boards of Control; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That these members, together with the members of the other South American Boards of Control and the Brazil District Board for Higher Education, be thanked for their past earnest and faithful services and their reports to this convention; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this convention not elect or re-elect these boards; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the President of the Synod be authorized to appoint a Board of Control for the new institution to be established at Sao Paulo, which board is to serve without standing for election until after the second synodical convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod hence.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### South American Professorships

#### RESOLUTION 33, COMMITTEE 1

Memorial 115, pages 87—92, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 116, pages 92—94, *Reports and Memorials*

*Resolved*, That the professorships requested for the Porto Alegre Seminary and the Villa Ballester Seminary respectively be authorized, subject to prior budget approval of the Board for Missions in North and South America.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### New Junior College in the Greater Detroit Area

#### RESOLUTION 34, COMMITTEE 1

Memorial 120, Section C, pages 119—126, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 120, Section D, page 132 and 134, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 122, pages 172—178, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 123, pages 178—179, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 124, pages 179—180, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 125, pages 180—181, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 126, page 181, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 127, page 182, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 144, page 194, *Reports and Memorials*

Unprinted Memorial 169, page 29, *Today's Business*

Unprinted Memorial 176, page 37, *Today's Business*



WHEREAS, At each convention of the Synod there is evident a steadily increasing rate of marvelous growth of the congregations and missions in North America in baptized and communicant members; and

WHEREAS, The prospect of a continuation of this rate of growth makes imperative a much greater training capacity in the synodical system of colleges and seminaries in the years that may lie ahead; and

WHEREAS, This convention in Resolution 22 of Committee 1 is being asked to approve many building projects and the possibility of judicious site acquisition on the edges of our present campuses in order to expand their area and their capacity of production to a higher and yet desirable level and to maximize the use to which each plant is put; and

WHEREAS, The many projects completed in recent years, now under way, and to be authorized by this and succeeding conventions for each of the Synod's colleges and seminaries in North America will not provide the needed capacity; and

WHEREAS, The Board for Higher Education affirms that the junior college level continues to be the institutional level which can and should be most decentralized; therefore be it

*Resolved:*

a) That this convention authorize the Board for Higher Education to establish a junior college in the next triennium, the location to be in the Greater Detroit area;

b) That final site determination be made by the Board of Directors upon recommendation of the Board for Higher Education;

c) That the initial capacity be planned for not fewer than 350 students, with a program of preparing students for the senior college level of training at Concordia Senior College and the synodical teachers colleges;

d) That the organization, administration, curriculum, and faculty should be comparable to present synodical coeducational junior colleges offering this level of education for the preaching and teaching ministries;

e) That the President of the Synod be authorized to appoint a Board of Control for the new school when the services of a board become essential to the operation, this board to consist of the District President, two pastors, one teacher, and three laymen, to serve until the second synodical convention after the school opens;

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f) That a president of the school be called before the start of construction and as early in the planning as may be feasible and that the necessary staff be obtained as the need for additional services becomes evident, provided that an initial maximum of 12 permanent chairs be allowed for the new institution;

g) That the Board of Control, with the Board for Higher Education concurring, determine whether to open the first year with the freshman year only or with both junior college years;

h) That the target date for school opening be September 1963;

i) That a total of \$6,000,000 be made available as a project budget for construction, plus the cost of a suitable site, and that the Fiscal Conferences, upon recommendation of the Board for Higher Education, approve the project budget.

Action: This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Deaconess Training Program**

#### **RESOLUTION 35, COMMITTEE 1**

Memorial 146, page 195, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 161, page 216, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 1013, page 710, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 1014, page 710, *Reports and Memorials*

Unprinted Memorial 166, page 26, *Today's Business*

*Resolved*, That the Synod decline to take over the deaconess program, but include a study of the diaconate in the general study on theological issues currently affecting synodical higher education; and be it further

*Resolved*, To permit the synodical institutions to admit qualified deaconess students to the junior college level of training in accord with campus space limitations and in accord with synodical curricular, instructional personnel, and placement policies.

Action: This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Moving the Springfield Seminary to the West Coast**

#### **RESOLUTION 36, COMMITTEE 1**

Memorial 120, Section D, page 135, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, After further study and consideration, it does not appear feasible to move the Springfield Seminary to the West Coast; and

WHEREAS, The historic purpose of the school seems to be served best by retaining the school in its present location; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Concordia Theological Seminary in Springfield, Illinois, remain in its present location.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **An Additional Synodical School on the West Coast**

#### **RESOLUTION 37, COMMITTEE 1**

Memorial 120, Section D, page 135, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 132, page 186, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 133, page 186, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 1027, page 725, *Reports and Memorials*

Unprinted Memorial 177, page 38, *Today's Business*

*Resolved*, That the Synod instruct the Board for Higher Education to give special attention to the nature and scope of pastor and teacher training in the western part of the United States and report at the next convention.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **An Additional Synodical School in the Southeast**

#### **RESOLUTION 38, COMMITTEE 1**

Memorial 120, Section D, page 135, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 129, page 183, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 130, page 184, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 131, page 185, *Reports and Memorials*

Unprinted Memorial 170, page 31, *Today's Business*

Unprinted Memorial 173, page 35, *Today's Business*

*Resolved*, That the Synod request the Board for Higher Education to continue to study, in consultation with the appropriate synodical and District officials and other interested parties, the question of a synodical school in the Southeast within the time limits of the options now held by interested parties in Catawba County, without commitment regarding the establishment of a synodical school; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this convention thank the representatives of Catawba County, North Carolina, for their interest in this matter.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Four-Year Teacher-Training Programs at Synodical Schools

#### RESOLUTION 39, COMMITTEE 1

Memorial 128, page 183, *Reports and Memorials*  
Memorial 134, page 187, *Reports and Memorials*  
Memorial 135, page 187, *Reports and Memorials*  
Memorial 136, page 188, *Reports and Memorials*  
Memorial 137, pages 188—189, *Reports and Memorials*  
Memorial 139, page 190, *Reports and Memorials*  
Memorial 140, page 191, *Reports and Memorials*  
Memorial 141, page 191, *Reports and Memorials*  
Memorial 142, pages 192—193, *Reports and Memorials*  
Unprinted Memorial 167, page 27, *Today's Business*  
Unprinted Memorial 171, page 33, *Today's Business*

*Resolved*, That the development of four-year teacher-training programs at Bronxville, Saint Paul, Winfield, and other areas be referred to the Board for Higher Education for further study and consultation with the Boards of Control; and be it further

*Resolved*, That, if this study indicates that action is desirable before the next convention of the Synod, the Board for Higher Education is authorized, after consultation with the Board of Directors, the College of Presidents, and the Boards of Control, to institute four-year teacher-training programs where this is advisable.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Housing for Appointive Faculty Personnel

#### RESOLUTION 40, COMMITTEE 1

Memorial 158, pages 213—214, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The Synod now provides housing as a part of compensation to instructional personnel in the ranks of associate professor and full professor, which ranks carry tenure of office; and

WHEREAS, The Synod does not at present obligate itself in the same manner to instructional personnel in the ranks of instructor or assistant professor; and

WHEREAS, In the pressing need for expanding the instructional staffs of our colleges and seminaries, it has become increasingly difficult to engage mature men from the parish ministry, especially in the ranks of instructor or assistant professor, because of the

economic stresses placed on such men, who usually are confronted with growing family responsibilities and often must make considerable sacrifices to accept such assignments; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod broaden its policy regarding housing for instructional personnel in the appointive ranks of instructor and assistant professor to include as a part of compensation adequate housing facilities, or in lieu thereof separate payment covering cost of housing.

*Action*: This resolution was adopted.

### Faculty Housing Purchase Policy

#### RESOLUTION 41, COMMITTEE 1

**Memorial 158, pages 213—214, *Reports and Memorials***

**Memorial 120, page 169, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, In 1953 the Houston convention asked the Board for Higher Education and the Board of Directors to resolve some of the difficulties pertaining to synodical faculty housing purchase policy, and the Saint Paul Convention of 1956 (Resolution 15 of Committee 1) repeated the request and asked that a report be made to the 1959 convention; and

WHEREAS, The Board for Higher Education and the Board of Directors have studied the above matter with the objective of setting up basic principles underlying a workable policy; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the following become the Basic Principles for a Revised Faculty Housing Purchase Policy:

1. Our housing policy must safeguard the interests of the Synod but must at the same time exercise genuine concern for the welfare of the worker;

2. The newest and often the youngest members of a teaching staff usually require the greatest amount of housing assistance, since the acquisition of a residence requires more than most faculty families have in ready cash and available savings;

3. Under current methods of financing, loans are normally made for two thirds to three fourths of the value of the property. Insured loan plans make it possible to finance up to 90% of the cost;

4. Faculty members who wish to purchase their own housing, but who do not have sufficient capital for a necessary down payment, shall be given consideration for assistance in the form of a long-term interest-bearing loan, satisfactorily secured, for down payment by making a written application to their respective Board

of Control. Such assistance shall at no time exceed one half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of his annual salary. Details pertaining to repayments, possible resale of such properties, utility allowances, and other safeguards shall be worked out by the Boards of Control in conjunction with the Board for Higher Education;

5. The purchaser should have enough income to make regular payments on the loan, so it can be paid off within twelve to twenty years and call for no more than one fifth of the monthly salary;

6. The regular income of the purchaser should be the chief determinant of the purchase price of the property;

7. A rule of thumb sometimes used to determine the amount to be spent for a home, generally speaking, is: "You can afford a home equal to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times your gross annual income." This would require 25% of the take-home pay and is only an estimate, since there are many modifying features.

8. A housing loan should be one which permits prepayment or payment in advance of the due date. Because a long-term loan requires smaller monthly payment than a short-term one, it is usually best to secure a relatively long-term loan which permits prepayments. If the loan is paid off as quickly as possible, interest costs will be saved, and an equity in the property can be built up faster. Payments should be based on a systematic loan-reduction plan or the constant monthly payment plans.

9. To protect their mortgage loan on the investment, lending agencies require the purchaser to carry fire, wind, and other insurance on the property. The policy should also provide enough insurance to protect the purchaser's equity.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Freshman High School Year at Concordia College, Portland, Oreg.**

#### **RESOLUTION 42, COMMITTEE 1**

##### **Memorial 143, page 193, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, At the present time Concordia College, Portland, Oreg., has no freshman high school year; and

WHEREAS, We believe that it would be more feasible to recruit young men to attend our Concordia if the freshman high school year were re-established; and

WHEREAS, There are only three of our schools in the Northwest District that have a ninth grade; and

WHEREAS, There is no community Lutheran high school to which the students of the District may go; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod authorize the Board of Control of Concordia College, Portland, to take steps to re-establish the freshman high school year for students desiring to enter the service of the church.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Making Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo., a Greater Center of Research Also in Biblical Manuscripts**

#### **RESOLUTION 43, COMMITTEE 1**

##### **Memorial 1020, pages 716—717, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, Our Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, by the grace of God, bases its theology on the inspired Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as found in the original languages of Hebrew and Greek; and

WHEREAS, Many manuscripts have been and undoubtedly more will be discovered which will call for thorough study and sound evaluation; and

WHEREAS, Gratitude for the pure Word obligates us to preserve it for ourselves and the church universal; and

WHEREAS, We have in our theological training program emphasized the study of the original languages and thus prepared students for scholarly research in those languages; and

WHEREAS, The Foundation for Reformation Research has designated St. Louis its headquarters and will use Concordia Seminary as its depository for microfilm of the original literature of the Reformation era; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod assembled in convention at San Francisco in June 1959 encourage making Concordia Seminary a greater center of research also in the Biblical manuscripts; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Synod encourage generous donations for this purpose.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **School for Graduate Studies**

#### **RESOLUTION 44, COMMITTEE 1**

##### **Memorial 101, page 13, par. 2, Reports and Memorials**

*Resolved*, That the Synod favor the expansion in staff and facilities of the School for Graduate Studies at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo., and encourage the Board for Higher Educa-

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tion to take under serious consideration the development plans and the budgetary provisions necessary to implement this expansion.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Title to Property at Concordia Seminary,  
St. Louis, Mo.**

**RESOLUTION 45, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorial 101, page 13, par. 5, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Synodical *Handbook*, par. 2.79 h, stipulates that "property shall be taken in the name of Synod under its corporate title except in cases where the property to be acquired is to be purchased for the use and benefit of a seminary or college which has been separately incorporated under the synodical resolution of 1935 and to which corporation the present real-estate holdings have been conveyed with the necessary reversionary clause"; and

WHEREAS, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, is one of the colleges and seminaries incorporated under the laws of the particular state where it is located (*Proceedings*, 1935, page 191); and

WHEREAS, At the present time all Concordia Seminary property is vested under the corporate title of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; and

WHEREAS, From time to time the Board of Control of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, must engage in transactions which involve its property, buildings, utilities, or other improvements and where questions arise concerning taxes, contracts, and easements; and

WHEREAS, The fact that the Synod holds title to all the subject property causes considerable confusion and delays prompt action; and

WHEREAS, In order to have a uniform practice among the Synod's respective institutions so concerned in the matter of title to properties and to simplify future transactions involving property; therefore be it

**Resolved**, That all properties presently owned or acquired in the future for use by Concordia Seminary be conveyed to Concordia College of St. Louis, Mo. (the corporate name of Concordia Seminary) with reversionary clause to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.



**Establishment of a Junior College Branch at  
Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, Ill.**

**RESOLUTION 46, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorial 154, pages 209—211, *Reports and Memorials***

*Resolved*, That the Synod decline the request for a junior college branch at Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, Ill., at this time and refer this matter to the Board for Higher Education for further study.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Required Year of Vicarage**

**RESOLUTION 47, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorial 155, pages 211—212, *Reports and Memorials***

**Memorial 104, page 34, par. 3, *Reports and Memorials***

*Resolved*, That the Board for Higher Education, in consultation with the faculties and Boards of Control of Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, Ill., and Concordia Teachers College, Seward, Nebr., study the matter of a required year of vicarage for male students.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Selling Portion of Concordia College,  
St. Paul, Minn., for a Through Highway**

**RESOLUTION 48, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorial 107, page 55, par. 3, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Minnesota State Highway Department expects to construct a through highway through part of the campus of Concordia College, St. Paul, Minn., along St. Anthony Ave.; and

WHEREAS, The constitutional provisions of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod require specific authorization of a synodical convention for the legal sale of any property which is a part of, or adjacent to, a college or seminary campus of the Synod; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That in accordance with the provisions of the synodical *Handbook*, section 2.75, 2.79 h, 2.79 o, 6.37 a, 6.37 b, authority be, and hereby is, conveyed to the Board of Directors of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and to the Board of Control of Concordia College, St. Paul, Minn., to sell and convey to the State of Minnesota or its appropriate and authorized

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agencies at such price or consideration and upon such terms and conditions as in the opinion of the Board of Directors and the Board of Control of Concordia College, St. Paul, Minn., would best serve the interests of the Synod, such portion of the present campus of Concordia College, St. Paul, as may be required for the purposes of improvement of the highway along St. Anthony Ave.; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the authority here conveyed be made effective immediately upon the completion of favorable action of this resolution by The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod assembled in triennial convention at San Francisco, Calif., June, 1959; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the proceeds of said sale be added to the capital fund of the Board for Higher Education.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Salary Schedules at Synodical Schools**

#### **RESOLUTION 49, COMMITTEE 1**

##### **Memorial 120, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, The Synod as employer has the obligation to maintain sound employment practices; and

WHEREAS, The cost of living affects particularly those on regular salaries; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod request the Board for Higher Education, the Board of Directors, and the Fiscal Conference to review annually the salary schedule of all instructional personnel at the Synod's colleges and seminaries and that the Synod encourage positive action to keep salary levels in line with the cost of living and in favorable relationship to those being paid by the congregations and by church-related groups within the Synod.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Providing for Growth to Match and Insure Synodical Growth**

#### **RESOLUTION 50, COMMITTEE 1**

##### **Memorial 120, section D, pages 127—133, Reports and Memorials**

*Resolved*, That the Synod adopt the following propositions as working principles:

*Proposition 1.* That the recruitment program authorized and encouraged at St. Paul in 1956 be intensified. No effort should be

spared in impressing pastors and people with the acute shortage of qualified professional workers which the church faces.

*Proposition 2.* That priority in enrollment be given to the students who enter at advanced levels. The granting of this priority implies that qualified students will be recruited at the advanced levels.

*Proposition 3.* That the goal be the balancing of the enrollment at all of the church's preparatory schools so that the high school enrollment nowhere exceeds 50 per cent of the total student body on the same campus.

*Proposition 4.* That consideration be given to the gradual elimination of coeducation on the high school level on all campuses.

*Proposition 5.* That a coeducational teacher-training program be authorized and encouraged for all the Synod's junior colleges.

*Proposition 6.* That the junior college pretheological program be authorized and encouraged in the freshman and sophomore years of the colleges at Seward and River Forest. (This proposition is to be referred to the Board for Higher Education for further study.)

*Proposition 7.* That existing physical plants be expanded where a realistic appraisal of available land indicates such a plan to be feasible and educationally sound. This expansion is to be carried out, however, so that a proper balance of all the facilities is achieved and maintained.

*Proposition 8.* That the admission standards at the Springfield seminary be in accord with par. 6.167 of the synodical *Handbook* as amended in Resolution 5, Committee 1 (*T.B.*, page 186), of the 1959 convention.

*Proposition 9.* That the Synod continue to train as high a percentage of its Christian day school teachers as possible. We further recommend that beginning with women students entering in September 1962, only those holding a baccalaureate degree from one of the church's teachers colleges, or properly admitted to the profession by colloquy, be certified as Lutheran teachers. (Cf. Resolution 26, Committee 1, of the 1959 convention.)

*Proposition 10.* That the Board for Higher Education be authorized — within *Handbook* limitations — to purchase property for additional campuses and to sell unimproved campus sites; that the actual establishment of new colleges and seminaries, however, be reserved to a synodical convention.

*Proposition 11.* That the Board for Higher Education continue to explore the needs for additional institutions.

Preliminary studies have led the Board to these general conclusions as they apply primarily to institutions in the United States. We request the Board for Higher Education, especially in plenary session, to continue to study the preliminary findings:

- a) The Synod at any one time should have as few theological seminaries as possible;
- b) The Synod at any one time should support as few graduate schools as possible;
- c) The Synod at any one time should have as few four-year colleges and senior colleges as possible;
- d) The junior college level appears to be the institutional level which can and should be most decentralized;
- e) The high school level appears necessary and desirable as a means by which a significant core of able and dedicated young men can begin early pursuit of a church vocation;
- f) No synodical school, operating at any level, is to exceed the maximum student enrollment defensible for it, nor is it other than temporarily to disrupt its balanced campus development at its optimum enrollment level.

*Proposition 12.* That the Board for Higher Education remain in consultation with the Canadian brethren regarding the development of an indigenous Canadian ministry trained in a theological seminary located in one of the provinces.

*Proposition 13.* That the training of lay workers be undertaken on an experimental basis (evening schools, summer sessions, etc.) on existing campuses of the Synod. (The matter of a Lay Training School was referred to Committee 13 of the 1959 convention, and action was taken on this matter.)

*Proposition 14.* That the administrative heads and Boards of Control of the Synod's colleges and seminaries concern themselves with the securing of funds from sources other than the Synod's treasury and student fees. It is apparent that educational costs will continue to rise. While colleges and seminaries engaged exclusively in training pastors and teachers for the church have a valid claim on the church's dollar, it must be admitted that the individual colleges and seminaries have not—in the pattern of American higher education generally—secured the material support which their constituencies are capable of giving and willing to give.

*Proposition 15.* That the Board for Higher Education continue to study the necessary development of the Synod's chain of institu-

tions of higher learning in the light of the growth of the Synod and the opportunities confronting it; and that each succeeding synodical convention engage in a thorough review of the progress made by the schools under the leadership of the Board for Higher Education in meeting the needs of the day; and that each convention take suitable action in the light of the findings and of the recommendations made by the Board.

*Proposition 16.* That the Board for Higher Education solicit the expressions of opinion and suggestions of pastoral conferences on all these propositions.

**Action:** After proposition 16 had been accepted as an amendment, this resolution was *adopted*.

### Request for Additional Professorships at Synodical Schools

#### RESOLUTION 51, COMMITTEE 1

Memorial 101, page 12, *Reports and Memorials*  
 Memorial 102, page 22, *Reports and Memorials*  
 Memorial 103, page 25, *Reports and Memorials*  
 Memorial 104, page 39, *Reports and Memorials*  
 Memorial 106, page 49, *Reports and Memorials*  
 Memorial 107, page 56, *Reports and Memorials*  
 Memorial 108, page 58, *Reports and Memorials*  
 Memorial 111, page 75, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The synodical institutions in North America have requested 37 new professorial chairs to provide for institutional growth and faculty stability; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod establish the following chairs at the indicated schools:

Concordia, St. Louis .....	2	Concordia, Bronxville .....	1
Concordia, Springfield .....	4	St. Paul's, Concordia .....	1
Concordia, River Forest .....	4	Concordia, Portland .....	1
Concordia, Seward .....	4	Concordia, Austin .....	1
Concordia, Milwaukee .....	1		—
Concordia, St. Paul .....	1		20

and be it further

*Resolved*, That upon request of the Board of Control, the Board for Higher Education, within the budgetary limitations established, authorize the filling of the granted chairs.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Secretary Authorized to Make Linguistic  
Standardization in Text of Resolutions  
and in Synodical "Handbook"**

**RESOLUTION 52, COMMITTEE 1**

**Memorial 120, page 149, *Reports and Memorials***

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Synod be authorized by this convention to make improvements in style and standardizations in capitalization and punctuation, syntax, grammar, and consistency of expression, in the resolutions adopted by this convention and particularly in the synodical *Handbook* provided that the sense of the original resolution or paragraph be not violated.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**COMMITTEE 2—Missions**

**Missions**

**RESOLUTION 1, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 401, page 324, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Lord of the church has again during the past triennium signally blessed the work of our church in its mission fields, causing our mission stations to grow stronger in numbers and in native workers; and

WHEREAS, The Lord has opened to our church new doors in fertile fields; therefore be it

*Resolved*:

a) That we express our gratitude to Almighty God for the blessings bestowed upon our efforts of the past;

b) That we recognize how we have failed to meet many opportunities in the great mission fields;

c) That we pledge ourselves to ever greater efforts to preach the Gospel of peace to many souls as yet without Christ.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Resolution on Literacy and Literature**

**RESOLUTION 2, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 401, page 327, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, There are still millions of illiterate people in the world who need to be taught to read so that they can read the precious truths of God's Word; and

WHEREAS, There are vast numbers who are now learning to read; and

WHEREAS, The printed page has been a very excellent tool in the spreading of the Gospel, because no other agency can serve so effectively; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod has greatly benefited by the development of Concordia Publishing House; and

WHEREAS, Our church has established an enviable record in the use of such media of mass communication as the radio and TV and might well establish a similar record in the use of the printing press; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Mission Boards operating in foreign countries appoint a joint committee on literacy and literature which is to implement the suggestions outlined in the book of *Reports and Memorials*, on pages 327—330; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this committee consult with Concordia Publishing House and other interested agencies in the production and distribution of Christian literature; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the mission boards be encouraged to request the necessary funds from the Fiscal Conference to carry out such a program.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Speakers Bureau for Furloughing Missionaries**

#### **RESOLUTION 3, COMMITTEE 2**

##### **Special Resolution**

WHEREAS, It is desirable to enable our missionaries coming home on furlough to make the most of their furloughs and to be of the greatest service to the home church in the bringing of first-hand information from the mission field to all parts of Synod; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we encourage the office of the Secretary of Missions to establish a lecture bureau which, after due consultation with the furloughing missionary, the respective Mission Board, and a District representative, shall schedule the missionary for rallies, lectures, and lecture tours.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Expansion**

#### **RESOLUTION 4, COMMITTEE 2**

##### **Memorial 402, page 332, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in 1956 encouraged its Board for Missions in North and South America to

strive for 1,350 new stations during the decade from 1956 to 1965; and

WHEREAS, This goal is still attainable even though, due to circumstances, the prorated goal was not reached in the past triennium; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we reaffirm our goal as established by the convention in 1956 and continue the expansion schedule of new mission stations resolved upon at that time.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

### 1. Resolution on Co-ordination and Integration of Efforts of District Mission Boards

#### RESOLUTION 5, COMMITTEE 2

Memorial 402, page 334, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, North America continues to offer outstanding opportunities for the expansion of our church, and there is every indication that these opportunities will not only continue but will increase in the years to come; and

WHEREAS, The opportunities for expansion vary from one part of the country to another while our financial resources are not always proportionately available; and

WHEREAS, Our manpower supply is limited and should be used to the best advantage; and

WHEREAS, Certain Districts and District Mission Boards have requested a greater co-ordination of their efforts with those of other Districts; therefore be it

*Resolved*:

1. That this convention request each District Mission Board to make a complete and intensive survey of the mission opportunities in its area, using all available assistance and resources, including those made available by Synod's Board for Missions in North and South America;

2. That District Home Mission Boards annually submit to Synod's Board for Missions in North and South America their survey findings regarding long-range opportunities and a complete report on each new project to be undertaken in the ensuing year, seeking the counsel of Synod's Board for Missions in North and South America;

3. That on the basis of such consultation, Synod's Board for Missions in North and South America propose both long-range and



immediate expansion rates for each District, said expansion rates to be reviewed annually;

4. That on the basis of available manpower, available financial resources, and a comparison of the proposed project with other opportunities in North America, Synod's Board for Missions in North and South America supply each District with an evaluation of the projects to be undertaken.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted* as printed above after the words "all available assistance and resources, including those" had been added in paragraph 1 after the word "using."

## 2. Resolution on Urban and Rural Church Work

### RESOLUTION 6, COMMITTEE 2

Memorial 402, page 334—335, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, Rapid and drastic changes in both urban and rural areas of North America demand that the church regularly alert its constituency to these changes and offer suggestions for meeting them; and

WHEREAS, The experiences of other denominations have demonstrated that these are areas which need constant attention by expert personnel; therefore be it

#### *Resolved:*

1. That this convention authorize Synod's Board for Missions in North and South America, in consultation with, and subject to the approval of, the Board of Directors of Synod, to employ the personnel and services necessary to meet the challenge of the changing scene in rural and urban areas;

2. That Synod's Board for Missions in North and South America be encouraged to avail itself of the specialized counsel of established and special commissions, conferences, and agencies interested in these areas of concern.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**NOTE:** Adoption of Resolution 6, Committee 2 obviated the necessity of further considering Memorial 413 on page 401, *Reports and Memorials*.

## 3. Mission Work in the Changing Community

### RESOLUTION 7, COMMITTEE 2

Memorial 402, page 335, *Reports and Memorials*

Unprinted Memorial 424

WHEREAS, The church's program in a changed or changing community frequently requires adjustment, revision, and expansion,

and this can take place only in an enlightened Christian social consciousness; and

WHEREAS, All churches are vitally affected by population movements which necessitate ongoing study of the usefulness and function of our churches at their present location; and

WHEREAS, Inner-city churches frequently provide the greatest mission challenge in a metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, The program of the inner-city church frequently requires more in personnel and continued support than mission ventures in other urban areas; and

WHEREAS, Our entire Synod, through its Districts, shares with all the congregations of the area responsibility and concern for these inner-city problems, including that of the use of abandoned facilities; therefore be it

*Resolved:*

1. That this convention reiterate and re-emphasize its 1956 resolution regarding race relations in national and worldwide church work, urging Districts, boards, and agencies to implement this resolution;

2. That District Mission boards give utmost encouragement and support to congregations located in the inner city that they may meet the challenge of their communities;

3. That District Mission Boards seriously consider the establishment of an effective mission program in those inner-city areas which are not being served adequately by one of our congregations and that suitable facilities be rented or acquired for such a program;

4. That all congregations be encouraged to conduct a self-study program as suggested by Synod's Board for Missions in North and South America, refraining from relocating or vacating an area until such a study has been completed and until conferences held with sister churches and District Home Mission Boards reveal that their profitable service to the community in which they exist has been exhausted;

5. That District Home Mission Boards avail themselves of financial assistance for such inner-city ventures from Synod's Board for Missions in North and South America, the latter to solicit and receive such funds by appropriation of the Fiscal Conference;

6. That all District Mission Boards be encouraged to bring this resolution to the attention of all the congregations located in the inner-city areas.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Congregational Evangelism Committees****RESOLUTION 8, COMMITTEE 2****Memorial 402, page 338, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, An important task of the church is Evangelism; and

WHEREAS, We need constantly to impress the challenge of personal Christian witness upon our people; and

WHEREAS, A more systematic outreach could be achieved by the establishing of an Evangelism Committee in every congregation of Synod; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That every congregation be encouraged to elect or otherwise to provide for a board or committee on Evangelism to be charged with the responsibility of encouraging Evangelism in all its phases.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted* after the words "An important" in the first paragraph had been substituted for the words "The fundamental."

**Evangelism Thrust****RESOLUTION 9, COMMITTEE 2****Memorial 402, page 338, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, The opportunities for extending the kingdom of God in North America continue to abound; and

WHEREAS, The experience with Districtwide Preaching-Teaching-Reaching missions has demonstrated that there is great value in concerted, simultaneous action; and

WHEREAS, The Lenten season is very well suited for an intensified evangelistic effort; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod establish 1960 as an Evangelism Year, beginning with an intensified evangelism effort in the pre-Lenten season for all congregations, and that all congregations be urged to adopt or adapt the working details of this effort as it will be outlined by Synod's Department of Evangelism.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Participation in Preaching-Teaching-Reaching****RESOLUTION 10, COMMITTEE 2****Memorial 402, page 338, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, The Preaching-Teaching-Reaching missions have demonstrated their effectiveness as "Training Weeks" in more than 2,000 congregations of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod; and

WHEREAS, This is a synodically approved program; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod urge all congregations of Synod, even those in isolated areas with but limited mission opportunities, to participate in such a mission to raise the witnessing level and to instill a new missionary spirit.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Evangelism Promotion

#### RESOLUTION 11, COMMITTEE 2

##### Memorial 402, page 339, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The church was established by Christ with a divine mandate to "go and preach the Gospel to every creature" and evangelism is the proclamation of the Gospel and the power of the Holy Spirit; and

WHEREAS, Under God's blessing a concerted Synodwide evangelism effort has served to enlist many congregations and individuals in intensive efforts both of internal and external evangelism; and

WHEREAS, The church's responsibility to evangelize presents an important challenge for the church; and

WHEREAS, The average annual loss of 5.8 members per church requires immediate attention in addition to such factors as soul conservation, integration, and assimilation; therefore be it

*Resolved:*

a) That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod express its joy and thanksgiving to God for the blessing bestowed upon our evangelism efforts in the past; and

b) That the Board for Missions in North and South America, through its Department of Evangelism intensify its efforts to assist Districts and congregations in developing and conducting a complete program of evangelism, giving special attention to the use of conferences, workshops, and institutes for this purpose; and

c) That the Department of Evangelism explore the possibility of using new avenues and new media in attaining its objective and share its findings with the church.

**Action:** This resolution was adopted.

**Making Available to All Congregations Text of  
Resolutions 9, 10, and 11 as Submitted by Committee 2**  
**RESOLUTION 11-A, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 402, pages 338—339, *Reports and Memorials***

*Resolved*, That Resolutions 9, 10, and 11 as submitted by Committee 2 and accepted by this convention be sent to every congregation.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Commendation of Latin-American Missions**  
**RESOLUTION 12, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 402, page 341, *Reports and Memorials***

**WHEREAS**, Our Latin-American brethren, despite peculiar problems and difficulties, are faithfully discharging their tasks as workmen in the Lord's vineyard; and

**WHEREAS**, The work being done in Latin America is being richly blessed by the Lord; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we commend our fellow Christians in Latin America for the splendid service they are rendering as laborers together with God; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we prayerfully wish them God's continued rich benediction in their Kingdom work.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted* as printed above after minor changes in the original wording had been made.

**Establishing Contact with the American Indians**  
**RESOLUTION 13, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 1019, page 716, *Reports and Memorials***

**WHEREAS**, At the present time many American Indians are moving into our nation's metropolitan areas individually or under the relocation program of the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs; and

**WHEREAS**, Some of these Indians are our fellow Lutherans; and

**WHEREAS**, Others who may be unchurched should be welcomed into the fellowship of the body of Christ; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Synod urge the Board for Missions in North and South America to encourage the mission boards of the various Districts to co-operate, wherever possible, with the offices of the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs in those metropolitan areas into which Indians are moving; and be it further

*Resolved*, That Synod urge congregations in these metropolitan areas to consider these American Indians their responsibility.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Intensify the Work Among the Blind**

#### **RESOLUTION 14, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 403, page 352, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Special opportunities to minister to the spiritual and temporal needs of the blind are enjoyed by congregations located near schools for the blind; and

WHEREAS, Integration with society is the goal toward which we should strive in ministering to these people; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That congregations so situated be urged to avail themselves of every opportunity to render such God-pleasing service; and be it further

*Resolved*, That all congregations be mindful of their obligation to reach out with the saving Gospel to the unchurched blind in the country.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Expression of Thanks to Transcription Committee**

#### **RESOLUTION 15, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 403, page 350, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Many women of our church, in the assistance of the Board for Missions to the Blind, have selflessly devoted their time and skills to the transcription of literature into Braille; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this convention, through the office of Executive Secretary W. Storm, express its sincere thanks to them for their splendid efforts.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Recognizing the Consecrated Labor of the Rev. O. C. Schroeder**

#### **RESOLUTION 16, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 403, page 351, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Rev. O. C. Schroeder of Chicago has completed 50 years of consecrated labor in ministering to the blind and deaf; and

WHEREAS, He is now retiring from his post; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this convention express its gratitude to God for the years of devoted service rendered Him by our brother; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we pray God's continued blessings upon His servant; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That a copy of this resolution be mailed to Pastor Schroeder together with an appropriate letter from the President of Synod.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted* after having been amended by adding the third "Resolved."

### Missionaries' Conference

#### RESOLUTION 17, COMMITTEE 2

Memorial 404 II-F, page 357, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 517, page 469, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The special needs and problems connected with the ministry among the deaf cannot be fully met by other pastoral conference arrangements, since this ministry deals with people who require a special approach; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Board for Missions to the Deaf be commended for arranging an annual conference for missionaries to the deaf in the past; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Board for Missions to the Deaf be instructed to continue such conferences on an annual basis.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Recognizing the Faithful Labors of Dr. John Salvner

#### RESOLUTION 18, COMMITTEE 2

Memorial 404 I-B, page 353, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, God in His grace has bestowed His blessings upon Dr. John Salvner, enabling him to devote 57 years of his life to work among the deaf, 15 years of which were spent as Executive Secretary of the Board for Missions to the Deaf; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we give glory and praise to God for the faithful labors that Dr. John Salvner was privileged to give His church; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we pray God's continued blessing upon His servant.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

## **Accepting the India Evangelical Lutheran Church as a Sister Church**

### **RESOLUTION 19, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 414, page 401, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The India Evangelical Lutheran Church, formed on January 8 and 9, 1958, desires to maintain church fellowship with The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and other bodies with which that Synod is in fellowship; and

WHEREAS, The India Evangelical Lutheran Church accepts the sacred Scripture and Confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church as the true exposition of the Word of God; and

WHEREAS, The objectives of the India Evangelical Lutheran Church are those of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; therefore be it

#### ***Resolved:***

a) That we join the India Evangelical Lutheran Church in giving thanks to God for the blessings He has bestowed upon it;

b) That we recognize the India Evangelical Lutheran Church as a sister church;

c) That we pledge it our assistance in men and money, as circumstances permit, so that the cause of the Kingdom may be furthered with the confidence that, under the continuing blessings of God, the India Evangelical Lutheran Church might soon become self-sustaining; and

d) That the Board for Missions in Foreign Countries is to serve as administrative liaison between the India Evangelical Lutheran Church and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

## **Establishing a Third Executive Position in the Board for Missions in Foreign Countries**

### **RESOLUTION 20, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 405, page 363, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Synod allowed a second executive for our mission work in Asia and the South Pacific already in 1940, when we had only 63 missionaries in two countries; and

WHEREAS, The work has now expanded to include seven fields and the services of 148 missionaries; and

WHEREAS, The Lord is also blessing our efforts to establish indigenous churches, which then call for special consideration; therefore be it



*Resolved*, That Synod allow the creation of a third executive position under the Board for Missions in Foreign Countries; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the executive of this Board has prime responsibility in carrying forward the whole work of missions in foreign countries and that the other secretaries be termed field secretaries with more direct responsibility, under the executive, in the administration of their work and serving as liaison with specific geographic areas determined by the Board for Missions in Foreign Countries; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That this resolution be put into effect by the Board for Missions in Foreign Countries with the concurrence of the Board of Directors.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Entering the Middle East

#### RESOLUTION 21, COMMITTEE 2

**Memorials 415, 416, 417, 418, pages 405—407, Reports and Memorials Unprinted Memorials 420, 421, and 422**

**WHEREAS**, In a certain section of the world hardly touched by Lutheranism the Lord has just at this time, through The Lutheran Hour, opened another door to our church; and

**WHEREAS**, The experiences of the past eight years indicate that there is a challenging mission opportunity in this area; and

**WHEREAS**, In the Middle East we shall be able to widen our approach to the Muslim; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Board for Missions in Foreign Countries, with the approval of Synod's Board of Directors, enter the Middle East as a new mission field.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Missions to the Moslems

#### RESOLUTION 22, COMMITTEE 2

**Memorial 419, page 407, Reports and Memorials**

**WHEREAS**, Our church in the Philippines has expressed concern for the more than 900,000 Moslems in that country; and

**WHEREAS**, Experience has shown that mission work among the Moslems can be conducted most effectively in conjunction with an established church; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Board for Missions in Foreign Countries

be authorized to encourage and to sustain the Philippine Lutheran Church in initiating and executing the work among the Moslems in the Philippines.

*Action:* This resolution was *adopted*.

**Resolution of Thanks to LLL, LWML, WL, and Wheat Ridge Foundation**

**RESOLUTION 23, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 405, page 365, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Laymen's League has been supporting The Lutheran Hour in Japan, Formosa, the Philippines, and India; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Women's Missionary League is supplying money for the construction of the school for missionary children in New Guinea and has been concerned with the seminaries in Formosa and India; and

WHEREAS, The Walther League has co-operated in securing Kingdom builders; and

WHEREAS, The Wheat Ridge Foundation has been active in the development of a tuberculosis control program and has contributed about \$275,000 to this cause during the past triennium; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the convention offer its sincere appreciation and thanks to these organizations for their contribution to this important work of the Lord's kingdom.

*Action:* This resolution was *adopted*.

**Recognizing Devoted Service of  
Miss Angela Rehwinkel**

**RESOLUTION 24, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 405, page 361, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, Miss Angela Rehwinkel has devotedly served our Savior since 1921 as a missionary nurse at Bethesda Lutheran Hospital in Ambur, India; and

WHEREAS, On Jan. 1, 1959, after 38 years of dedicated ministration, she has retired from active service; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this convention, publicly expressing gratitude to God for the manifold blessings that have come to the church through His servant Angela Rehwinkel, also pay tribute to her faithfulness by presenting her with an appropriate citation on the convention floor.

*Action:* This resolution was *adopted*.

**Resolution of Condolence  
re Missionary Armand K. Graf**

**RESOLUTION 25, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 405, page 359, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God suddenly to call to Himself the soul of His servant Missionary Armand K. Graf, who was killed in an automobile accident near Kemmerer, Wyoming; and

WHEREAS, Missionary Graf had served faithfully and well for 14 years in India; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That as we submit to the inscrutable will of God, we also express our thanks to Him for the blessings He has showered on our work in India through His servant, our brother, Missionary Graf; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we express our Christian sympathy to the three surviving brothers of Missionary Graf.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Recognizing Untiring Service of Dr. O. H. Schmidt**

**RESOLUTION 26, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 405, page 362, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, Dr. O. H. Schmidt has served with consecration and faithfulness for almost 19 years as executive secretary of the Board for Missions in Foreign Countries; and

WHEREAS, God has visibly blessed our Asiatic missions so that our Synod was permitted to enter the following new fields: The Philippines, Japan, New Guinea, Hong Kong, Formosa, and Korea; and

WHEREAS, The missionaries of our church have deeply appreciated the Christian gentility and courtesy that have characterized the administration of Dr. O. H. Schmidt; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Synod praise God for the rich blessings bestowed on the preaching of the Gospel abroad during Dr. Schmidt's years of service; and be it further

*Resolved*, That Synod herewith express its warm appreciation to Dr. O. H. Schmidt for his heroic and untiring service.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Our Work in England

#### RESOLUTION 27, COMMITTEE 2

Memorial 406, page 367, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, God has signally prospered the work of our church in England; and

WHEREAS, Intensified programing has increased the number of congregations from two to twelve in recent years; and

WHEREAS, Projected activity provides for 20 congregations in England by 1965; therefore be it

*Resolved:*

a) That we encourage our brethren in England to move forward with an enlarged program; and

b) That we pledge them our continued support in accordance with their needs.

*Action:* This resolution was *adopted*.

### Our Work in Germany

#### RESOLUTION 28, COMMITTEE 2

Memorial 406, page 367, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The theological conferences with pastors of the German State churches have been a great blessing to our Free Churches and church life in general in Germany; and

WHEREAS, These blessings are evident in increased Biblical preaching and in making our churches and our institution at Oberursel known and respected; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Free Churches have initiated a progressive program of stewardship and evangelism resulting in steadily declining subsidies; and

WHEREAS, The seminary at Oberursel is drawing students from state church circles and also from Finland; therefore be it

*Resolved:*

a) That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, assembled in convention at San Francisco, gratefully acknowledge these blessings from God; and

b) That we commend our Free Churches for their continued growth in stewardship and evangelism; and

c) That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod continue to support the European Free Churches and the institution at Oberursel; and be it further

*Resolved*, That in view of continued and new spiritual oppression in the East Zone of Germany we continue to remember our brethren in our prayers.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Request for a Resident Counselor in Europe**

#### **RESOLUTION 29, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 406, page 368, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The problem concerning a resident counselor for Europe was to be studied by the Board for European Affairs, according to a resolution adopted by the St. Paul convention; and

WHEREAS, The Board for European Affairs has reconsidered the matter after a recent survey conducted by Dr. H. E. Mayer and Prof. Martin Naumann and recommends that the appointment of a full-time counselor be held in abeyance for the time being; and

WHEREAS, There is immediate need for supervisory and counseling aid in certain areas of Europe; and

WHEREAS, It appears that this aid can be supplied on a part-time basis with a qualified man from England or from the European continent; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Board for European Affairs be empowered to make such part-time arrangement as deemed necessary during the next triennium.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Missionary Board of the Lutheran Synodical Conference**

#### **RESOLUTION 30, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 409, pages 376 ff., *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Lord has greatly prospered the work of our church in Africa and on the home field through the joint efforts of the constituent synods of the Synodical Conference; therefore be it

*Resolved*:

a) That we praise God for His continued blessings upon the labors of our missionaries among the people of Nigeria and on the home front; and

b) That we commend the church of Nigeria, her missionaries, and the Missionary Board for their alertness to additional mission opportunities and the extension of the work in the Ogoja province and in the commonwealth of Ghana.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

**Request to Support Efforts of Commission  
on College and University Work**

**RESOLUTION 31, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 411, page 392, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The great commission of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ includes penetration of the university world with the saving and transforming Gospel; and

WHEREAS, Synod through its Commission on College and University Work, and through the Districts, is putting forth efforts to make effective response to the divine obligation of its Lord also in this area; and

WHEREAS, Synod in previous conventions adopted appropriate resolutions designed to intensify and extend the Christian campus ministry in all its ramifications; and

WHEREAS, The mounting number of colleges served, the increased and increasing campus population, and the improved religious climate at secular colleges and universities present unprecedented and critical opportunities for Christian witness and impact; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this convention in recognition of extraordinary and critical opportunities in the campus ministry, and mindful also of the Spirit's visible blessings on this important work, request Synod's Board of Directors and the Fiscal Conference to effect substantial and progressive increases in the operating budget of the Commission on College and University Work; and be it further

*Resolved*, That responsible synodical agencies accord or continue to accord careful consideration to the declared needs of, and requests for, grants of financially handicapped synodical Districts during the current critical period, enabling them to meet their (i. e., Synod's) campus opportunities.

**Action:** This resolution was adopted.

**Gamma Delta**

**RESOLUTION 32, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 411, page 392, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Gamma Delta, the International Association of Lutheran Students (Synodical Conference), is this year observing its 25th anniversary; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we thank God for the blessings He has bestowed on the church through this association and that we commend

Gamma Delta for its concern in keeping the university youth with the church.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Promoting Church Extension**

#### **RESOLUTION 33, COMMITTEE 2**

##### **Memorial 410, page 383, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, The cost of acquiring sites and suitable facilities for new missions and student centers is constantly increasing; and

WHEREAS, The number of participants in District and General Church Extension Fund programs is only 5 to 10 per cent of our membership; and

WHEREAS, Ever-increasing demands require that all people join hands in making funds available for church-extension purposes; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the General Church Extension Department co-operate with all District Church Extension Departments to promote church extension and to organize all congregations within the Districts regularly and systematically to acquire loans for the District and the General Church Extension Funds.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Proposed "Handbook" Revisions and Additions — Statement on Philosophy of Missions**

#### **RESOLUTION 34, COMMITTEE 2**

##### **Memorial 402, page 344, Reports and Memorials**

*This resolution was replaced by Resolution 52 of Committee 2.*

### **Proposed "Handbook" Revisions and Additions**

#### **RESOLUTION 35, COMMITTEE 2**

##### **Memorial 402, pages 344—345, Reports and Memorials**

*This resolution was tabled and later replaced by Resolution 53 of Committee 2.*

### **Proposed "Handbook" Revisions and Additions — Missions**

#### **RESOLUTION 36, COMMITTEE 2**

##### **Memorial 402, pages 345—347, Reports and Memorials**

##### **10. Functions and Duties of Board**

WHEREAS, The functions and duties of the Board for Missions in North and South America and the District Mission Boards need

to be expressed more comprehensively and clearly than currently stated in the *Handbook*; and

WHEREAS, In consultation with representatives of all Districts and the Latin-American fields, these functions and duties have been more clearly defined; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod assembled in convention at San Francisco, June 17—27, 1959, instruct its Committee on Constitutional Matters to delete all the paragraphs under Sec. 8.27 and substitute the following:

**A. Functions of the Board for Missions in North and South America**

The Board shall be responsible to the Synod for striving to maintain, administer, and promote:

- a. a strong missionary consciousness within the church;
- b. a maximum evangelistic outreach to all people of the Western Hemisphere;
- c. churches truly representative of, and ardently ministering to, their communities;
- d. a high degree of efficiency in missionary operation and the organization necessary to accomplish this. It shall provide assistance to, and shall co-ordinate the work of, the Synod's Districts and congregations in this area and shall advise on the objectives and means of mission work on every level of the church's activity.

**B. Duties of the Board for Missions in North and South America**

The Board for Missions in North and South America, in carrying out its functions, shall:

- a. keep itself informed concerning all developments in the Americas which have any bearing upon the expansion of our church in the Western Hemisphere, communicating such findings to the officials of the Synod, to the mission fields within the area, to the District Mission Boards, and to the congregations of the Synod;
- b. counsel with the mission boards of the Districts and the mission fields with reference to their total mission program, and administer the program in foreign fields in such a way that the Synod's resources of men and money may be used to the best advantage;
- c. work closely with the District mission boards and congregations of the Synod and the mission fields under its direct administration to promote an intensive program of all phases of evangelism and offer such helps and assistance as may be needed;
- d. consult with every District Mission Board and suggest ex-



pansion rates, both long-range and immediate, for the inauguration of new projects, making available financial assistance as needed;

e. supply every District with the information needed to evaluate the projects it proposes to undertake, taking into consideration available manpower, available financial resources, and a comparison with other opportunities in North America;

f. communicate all information regarding immediate and future expansion needs to the Church Extension Department so that this department will be in a position to make available the Church Extension funds needed;

g. arrange mission conferences of representatives of the Mission and Church Extension boards of the Synod, of the Districts, and of the mission fields for the purpose of discussing problems, opportunities, and mission procedure;

h. determine the general policies and practices which guide, direct, and govern the church's work in the mission fields of the Western Hemisphere, and provide the guidance and help necessary to achieve the church's objective in these areas;

i. furnish mission personnel as available and needed for the mission fields under its immediate administration, assigning them to the fields and stations in which they shall work;

j. make necessary provisions for the specific missionary training and orientation of mission personnel;

k. begin work in new extraterritorial mission fields by synodical resolution or with the approval of the Board of Directors and the College of Presidents;

l. annually submit a budget to the Board of Directors of the Synod for recommendation and referral to the Fiscal Conference.

#### **11. *The District Mission Boards***

Every synodical District shall elect, or otherwise provide, a District Mission Board whose functions within the District shall express the functions outlined for the Board for Missions in North and South America. In carrying out these functions every District Mission Board shall:

a. keep itself informed concerning all mission developments and opportunities within its District;

b. investigate and utilize new and established techniques and procedures which will expedite its work and help to realize the mission potential of its District;

c. regard the mission performance of all congregations in the District as a responsibility toward which help, encouragement, and guidance are to be directed;

d. channel to the congregations of the District all helpful information and materials in the area of missions and evangelism and, in co-operation with the Board for Missions in North and South America, implement the synodical program and emphases on the District, circuit, and congregational levels;

e. make regular, complete, and intensive surveys of the mission opportunities in its area, using the resources and assistance made available by the Synod's Board for Missions in North and South America;

f. submit annually to the Synod's Board for Missions in North and South America its survey findings regarding long-range opportunities and a complete report on each new project to be undertaken in the ensuing year, seeking the counsel of the Synod's Board for Missions in North and South America regarding its plans and needs;

g. report annually to the Board for Missions in North and South America concerning the number of missionaries and stations served, salaries paid, receipts and disbursements for home missions, and such other matters as will give a true picture of mission work done in the District;

h. provide appropriate subsidy to fields and congregations for the expansion, extension, or intensification of the church's mission program;

i. solicit the guidance and assistance of competent authorities in community planning and research, real-estate development, and construction toward the selection of adequate sites and the provision of suitable facilities;

j. give special attention to congregations located in communities which are either changing or declining in population and seek opportunity to confer with such congregations, offering counsel and financial assistance as needed;

k. co-operate with the Commission on College and University Work to the end that the mission outreach among campus personnel may be extended;

l. concern itself with the outreach at hospitals and other institutions, working closely with the Synod's Department of Social Welfare;

m. establish, with the approval of the District, the executive offices which are necessary to administer its duties;

n. solicit the support of congregations and auxiliary organizations for specific mission projects and the total mission program of the District.

**Action:** This resolution was adopted.

## Proposed "Handbook" Revisions and Additions

### RESOLUTION 37, COMMITTEE 2

Memorial 402, pages 348—349, *Reports and Memorials*

#### 12. Executive Secretary and Staff

WHEREAS, The successful administration of the Synod's mission program requires competent executive personnel; and

WHEREAS, Changing conditions affecting mission work necessitate occasional adjustments in the employment and assignments of such executive personnel; and

WHEREAS, The Board for Missions in North and South America is and will be confronted with these necessary adjustments and changes; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, assembled in convention at San Francisco, June 17—26, 1959, instruct its Committee on Constitutional Matters to delete Sec. 8.25 in the *Handbook* and substitute the following:

a. The Board for Missions in North and South America shall engage an Executive Secretary, subject to the approval of the President of the Synod, determine the qualifications of his office, and prescribe his duties and functions.

b. The Board for Missions in North and South America shall, subject to synodical resolution or approval of the Board of Directors, engage staff personnel and assign its duties.

c. The Board for Missions in North and South America shall engage such additional professional and clerical help as may be necessary.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

## Church Extension — "Handbook" Revisions

### RESOLUTION 38, COMMITTEE 2

Memorial 410, page 388, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The General Church Extension Department is involved in two separate and unrelated functions; and

WHEREAS, It is undesirable and impractical to control and administer the unrelated functions with a single unit of policies; and

WHEREAS, A separation of functions with separate operating policies would be desirable and wholesome for both the mission stations and the Church Extension program; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Church Extension Department be divided into two separate divisions — the Division of Expansion and the Division of Investment; and be it further

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*Resolved*, That the Division of Expansion be charged with the responsibility of making loans available for a period of five years to District Church Extension Funds in behalf of the new mission congregations at a low rate of interest and a graduated repayment program for the purpose of acquiring a site and/or constructing facilities in order that the Word of God might be preached and the sacraments might be administered; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the Division of Investment shall be charged with the responsibility of financing parish building programs after the first five years if outside local financing is not available. Terms and policies for this Division shall be separated from policies of the Division of Expansion. This Division would provide for longer periods of financing and at higher interest rates than those offered by the Division of Expansion.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Church Extension — "Handbook" Revision**

#### **RESOLUTIONS 39 to 49, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 412, pages 394—395, Reports and Memorials**

*These resolutions were replaced by Substitute Resolution 39-49, Committee 2.*

### **Church Extension — "Handbook" Revisions**

#### **RESOLUTION 40, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 412, page 395, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, A constant growth of the Church Extension Fund requires special attention; and

WHEREAS, Special interests and special abilities are desirable for supervising, maintaining, and enlarging the Church Extension Fund upon a sound financial basis; and

WHEREAS, Frequently qualifications in finance and investment are found in the lay membership; and

WHEREAS, The addition of two laymen to the General Church Extension Board would provide equal representation between laymen and called workers in the church; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the San Francisco convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod instruct its Committee on Constitutional Matters to delete paragraph 8.101 — "Personnel and Election of Board" and substitute the following paragraph:

#### **Personnel**

The Church Extension Board shall consist of eight members — two pastors, two teachers, and four laymen — who shall be elected

by the Synod. One half of the Board membership shall be elected at every convention of the Synod.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Church Extension — "Handbook" Revisions**

#### **RESOLUTION 41, COMMITTEE 2**

NOTE: Resolutions 40 and 41 were adopted separately and later incorporated in Substitute Resolution 39-49.

#### **Memorial 412, page 395, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Continuity in administering the General Church Extension Fund in its promotion, allocation, and repayment program is of utmost importance in the growing Church Extension Fund in regard to policies and investments; and

WHEREAS, A complete change in Board personnel could be of serious consequence to the security and program of the General Church Extension Fund because of its large amount of funds; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the pastor, the teacher, and two laymen receiving the highest number of votes at the San Francisco Convention serve for a six-year term, and the remaining half of the elected Board serve for a three-year term.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Church Extension — "Handbook" Revision**

#### **SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION 39-49, COMMITTEE 2**

#### **Memorial 412, pages 394—395, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The objectives and functions of a department should be clearly stated so as to define the goals of a department and to outline the functions of a department; and

WHEREAS, The objectives and functions of the Church Extension Department are not included in the *Handbook* for The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the San Francisco convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod instruct its Committee on Constitutional Matters to incorporate the following paragraphs in the *Handbook* under Section VIII. MISSIONS — Part G — Church Extension:

#### **Objectives**

1. To furnish adequate facilities that provide for a parish program of preaching and teaching the Word and administering the sacraments to its members in the community of a newly organized congregation and assist, wherever possible, in the missionary expansion program of the Synod.

2. Adequate and strategic sites that will be available for future expansion and service in areas of opportunity and need.

#### **Functions**

1. To provide sufficient funds to aid and assist District and Synodical Mission Boards with loans to provide for sites and facilities in our mission expansion program.

2. To interest individuals, congregations, organizations, and Districts in acquiring deposits in an organized and regular manner.

3. To strive for co-ordination, uniformity, solidarity of policies and programs of all District and Synodical Church Extension Funds.

#### **8.101 Personnel and Election of Board**

The Church Extension Board shall consist of eight members — two pastors, two teachers, and four laymen — who shall be elected by the Synod. One half of the Board membership shall be elected at every convention of the Synod.

#### **8.103 Vacancies**

The Board shall be empowered to fill any vacancies which may occur, subject to the approval of the President of the Synod.

#### **8.105 Executive Secretary**

a. The Board shall appoint an Executive Secretary, subject to the approval of the President of the Synod. He shall perform such duties as are assigned to him by the Church Extension Board.

b. The Board shall be empowered, subject to a resolution of a synodical convention or approval by the Synod's Board of Directors, to make such staff appointments as may be necessary for proper administration and program. Staff appointments are also subject to approval of the President of the Synod.

c. Salaries of personnel are to come from the proceeds of the Church Extension Fund.

#### **8.106 Secretary of Missions Advisory Member**

This paragraph deleted (included in 8.03a)

#### **8.107 Duties of Board**

a. The Church Extension Board shall administer the Synod's Church Extension Fund and grant loans in accordance with the Synod's Loan Regulations. (See Paragraph 8.115)

b. The Board shall promote and maintain an adequate fund to financially assist District and synodical mission boards with loans in their mission expansion program beyond their own capacities of financial aid.

c. The Board shall study District loan application requests and allocate necessary funds as loans to make acquisition of sites and/or construction of facilities for parish building programs possible.

d. The Church Extension Board shall approve repayment schedules to borrowing Districts and boards to provide for loan repayments so that the Church Extension Fund revolves in a lending rather than a spending cycle.

e. The Church Extension Board shall establish necessary policies to maintain, supervise, and enlarge the Church Extension Fund upon a sound financial basis so that financial assistance to our mission expansion projection is possible.

f. The Church Extension Board shall study and review the monthly financial statement to assure the security and safety of the financial aspects of the program. The Board shall, furthermore, review periodically financial statements of all District Church Extension Funds.

g. The Church Extension Board, through its Executive Secretary, shall confer, review, and agree with the Treasurer's Office on matters pertaining to Church Extension administration.

h. The Church Extension Board shall seek to attain greater uniformity in policy and program of all District Church Extension Departments.

i. The Church Extension Board shall assist the Districts in co-operatively promoting the Church Extension Funds.

j. The Church Extension Board shall send a copy of its minutes to the President, First Vice-President, Committee No. 1 of the Board of Directors, the Planning Counselor, the Controller, the Treasurer's Office, the Secretary of Missions, and members of the Home Mission Board.

k. The Church Extension Board shall publish a complete financial statement in its report to the Synod. This would include money borrowed, received, and loaned.

#### **8.109 Treasurer of Synod as Depositary**

a. Treasurer of the Synod shall be the depositary of the Church Extension Fund and custodian of its assets.

b. The Treasurer's Office shall receive the collections, do the essential accounting, and make a monthly report to the Board.

c. The Treasurer's Office and the Church Extension Board shall discuss and shall be mutually agreed on policies and programs of loans, withdrawals, reserves, and investments. Policies shall have the approval of the Board of Directors.

d. The Treasurer of the Synod shall be an ex officio member of the Church Extension Board.

#### **8.111 Report of Board**

The Church Extension Board shall publish the total amounts of loans outstanding, and the amounts delinquent in each District, in its report to the Synod.

#### **8.113 The Fund**

a. The Church Extension Fund is a permanent fund, from which loans can be made to erect or purchase churches, schools, parsonages, and teacherages or to acquire property for new preaching places or congregations and, if approved by the Board of Directors, other areas of our church program, in conformity with the objectives of the Church Extension Fund.

b. This Fund shall be increased

1. through the synodical budget when authorized by the Fiscal Conference;

2. by special Synodwide offerings;

3. by gifts, bequests, and devises;

4. by commercial loans arranged by the Board of Directors of Synod;

5. by borrowing programs among our constituency conducted under the direction of the synodical Church Extension Board, authorized by the Board of Directors and in co-operation with our District Church Extension Committees.

#### **8.115 Loans**

a. Loans shall be granted at the discretion of the Board to incorporated Districts, whether subsidized or unsubsidized, and to synodical mission boards and other areas of our church program approved by the Board of Directors in conformity with the objectives of the Church Extension Fund.

b. The amount of the loan shall be determined by the needs of the applicant and the ability to repay. The needs shall be viewed in the light of the most promising and/or strategic mission fields. The Church Extension Board shall work in close co-operation with the Home Mission Board and seek its evaluation of loan applications.

c. No loan shall be made without provision of a mutually agreed-upon repayment schedule. In the event of a default on a payment, no further loan shall be made to a defaulting District until the default has been removed.

d. Interest shall be charged the respective Districts at a rate determined by the General Church Extension Board.



e. The borrowing District or Board shall give its notes signed by its officers as security for loans.

f. Districts having loans shall make available financial reports to the Church Extension Board of the Synod annually or when such reports are requested by this Board. They shall have these accounts audited by the Synod's Auditor or submit an audit acceptable to him.

#### **8.117 The District Church Extension Program**

a. The District Church Extension Committee shall administer the District's Church Extension program in accordance with District regulations and policies and in close co-operation with Synod's Church Extension Board and in conformity with Synod's Church Extension program.

#### **8.119 Division of Expansion and Division of Investment**

a. The Church Extension Department shall be divided into two separate divisions — Division of Expansion and Division of Investment.

b. The Division of Expansion shall be charged with the responsibility of making loans available for a period of five years to District Church Extension Funds in behalf of new congregations at a low rate of interest and a graduated repayment program for the purpose of acquiring a site and/or constructing facilities in order that the Word of God might be preached and the sacraments might be administered.

c. The Division of Investment shall be charged with the responsibility of financing parish building programs after the first five years if outside local financing is not available. Terms and policies for this division shall be separated from policies of the Division of Expansion. This division would provide for longer periods of financing and at higher interest rates than those offered in the Division of Expansion.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Medical Missions**

#### **RESOLUTION 50, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 405, pages 361—362, Reports and Memorials**

**Unprinted Memorial 423, page 46, Today's Business**

WHEREAS, The work of Medical Missions has been recognized as an important phase of the work of the church for many years; and

WHEREAS, The 1956 convention of the Synod established the office of Executive Secretary of Medical Missions; and

WHEREAS, Additional clarifying regulations are necessary for the proper functioning of the Executive Secretary of Medical Missions; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the paragraph in the synodical *Handbook* under Medical Missions (J) be deleted and the following paragraphs substituted:

#### J. MEDICAL MISSIONS

##### Executive Secretary

An Executive Secretary of Medical Missions, preferably a medical person, shall upon nomination of the Medical Mission Council (see below) and approval of the Mission Boards be appointed by the Board of Directors of the Synod to serve as the administrative staff officer for the Mission Boards of the Synod for all their medical work. As such, he or his representative shall attend all meetings of these Mission Boards. The ultimate authority for, and administration of, medical mission work shall be the responsibility of the respective Mission Board operating in a given area.

##### Medical Mission Council

The Board of Directors of the Synod shall appoint a Medical Mission Council, which shall meet regularly to counsel and to advise the Executive Secretary of Medical Missions. He shall submit his plans for medical missions to this council before recommending them to the respective Mission Boards.

The Medical Mission Council shall be composed of the president of the Lutheran Medical Mission Association or his representative; the executive director of the Wheat Ridge Foundation or his representative; a Lutheran hospital administrator; and four members at large to be appointed by the Board of Directors of the Synod. Executive Secretaries of Mission Boards shall be ex officio members of this council without vote.

The Medical Mission Council shall seek to develop interest in, and support for, medical missions, especially among medical people in our Synod.

##### Lutheran Medical Mission Association

The Lutheran Medical Mission Association is recognized as a service group within Synod to co-operate with the Medical Mission Council and with the Executive Secretary of Medical Missions.

**Duties of Executive Secretary of Medical Missions**

As a member of the secretarial staff of the various Mission Boards of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod engaged in medical missions, the Executive Secretary shall:

- a. Direct and administer all medical mission work for the various Boards involved;
- b. Maintain good liaison with other agencies interested in medical missions;
- c. Recruit, interview, and approve medical personnel for appointment by the Mission Board concerned. The appointment of medical personnel or the acquisition of medical equipment or properties will be made only after the advice and approval of the Executive Secretary of Medical Missions;
- d. Give counsel and guidance in training medical personnel. He shall recommend worthy candidates for special grants or scholarships;
- e. Give counsel and guidance to missionaries and boards in regard to health problems and arrange for pertinent examinations;
- f. Advise concerning the expenditure of special funds raised for medical mission work;
- g. Submit plans and programs for the conduct and expansion of medical mission work, taking into full account both professional medical experience and mission objectives and policies;
- h. Offer advice, upon consultation with the Boards concerned, to various agencies within the church, e. g., the Lutheran Laymen's League, the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, the Wheat Ridge Foundation of the Walther League, and other church-related organizations, with reference to medical mission projects;
- i. Develop and maintain contact with the members of the church at large, but specifically with the members of the medical profession, in order to promote interest and activity in the medical mission program of our church;
- j. Keep the medical mission program of the church in all its phases under constant review and evaluation, using the services and experience of the Lutheran Medical Mission Association and all other church-related medical organizations, societies, and agencies;
- k. Annually submit a budget for the expenses of his office to the Board of Directors of the Synod for recommendation and referral to the Fiscal Conference. He shall process and submit to the various Boards involved a budget for the needs of medical missions in their respective areas.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Services of Executive Secretary of Medical Missions  
Offered to the Missionary Board**

**RESOLUTION 51, COMMITTEE 2**

**Special Resolution**

WHEREAS, The work of Medical Missions should be the concern of every phase of our mission endeavors; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we offer the services of the Executive Secretary of Medical Missions to the Missionary Board of the Lutheran Synodical Conference and respectfully petition the Missionary Board of the Synodical Conference to make the necessary provisions for his use.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Proposed "Handbook" Revisions and Additions —  
Statement on Philosophy of Missions**

**RESOLUTION 52, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 402, page 344, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, The Committee on Constitutional Matters suggests that a statement on the philosophy of missions should not be embodied in *Handbook* Resolutions; and

WHEREAS, The Committee is of the opinion that a statement on objectives and responsibility is of great value to the Mission Board; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the convention adopt the statement on the Objectives of Missions and the Responsibility and Function of Missions but do not include it in the *Handbook*.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**NOTE:** The adopted Statement on Mission Objective, Responsibility, and Function is as follows:

*The Objective of Missions:*

A growing number of people who worship and serve the true God.

*The Responsibility and Function of Missions*

1. The responsibility rests primarily on the individual Christian. Through life and word he is to be a witness to the Lord Jesus wherever he is, using all the avenues and media which the Lord has made available.

2. The congregation of believers in a community has the responsibility of reaching out to all in the community who do not

yet know the Lord Jesus Christ. The congregation will achieve this by encouraging, equipping, and aiding the individual Christian in his witness to his fellow men. In order that no one is overlooked, the congregation will plan its program of outreach as a collective group of Christians to bring all in the community under the saving influence and power of the Gospel.

3. Through Synod, member congregations have jointly assumed responsibility for the evangelization of the world. "The Joint Extension of the Kingdom of God" (Constitution — Article III, 2). Through its Districts and directly Synod conducts a co-ordinated program of missions and evangelism which implements the outreach of its member congregations to the total world community.

### **Personnel and Election of Board for Missions in North and South America**

#### **RESOLUTION 53, COMMITTEE 2**

**Memorial 402, page 344, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The personnel of the Board for Missions in North and South America has been elected at this convention, we therefore recommend to this convention that the memorial requesting proposed *Handbook* revision regarding the personnel and election of the Board be respectfully declined.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **COMMITTEE 3—Intersynodical and Doctrinal Matters**

#### **Regarding Synodical Conference Relationships**

##### **RESOLUTION 1, COMMITTEE 3**

**Memorial 601, Sec. 1, page 482, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Committee on Doctrinal Unity has done much to further doctrinal understanding and harmony among the sister synods of the Synodical Conference; therefore be it

**Resolved,** That the members of Synod join in the prayer that God continue to prosper the work of the Committee on Doctrinal Unity; and be it further

**Resolved,** That our District Presidents be requested to encourage and foster, at the local level, positive fraternal contact, theological conversations, and practical co-operation with the members and churches of sister synods; and be it finally

**Resolved,** That Synod ask the Committee on Doctrinal Unity to continue to face all the issues confronting the members of the Synodical Conference, and, by God's grace, help to resolve them.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Invite National Evangelical Lutheran Church to  
Establish Organic Union with Missouri Synod;  
Finnish Relations Committee Be Instructed  
to Arrange Necessary Meetings**

**RESOLUTION 2, COMMITTEE 3**

**Unprinted Memorial 632**

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and the National Evangelical Lutheran Church have been in doctrinal agreement for more than thirty-five years; and

WHEREAS, Altar and pulpit fellowship has been practiced during this time; and

WHEREAS, The pastors of the National Evangelical Lutheran Church are, for the most part, graduates of our Springfield Seminary; and

WHEREAS, The pastors of the National Evangelical Lutheran Church have helped their congregations to appreciate the close ties existing between the two synods; and

WHEREAS, The National Evangelical Lutheran Church is at the present time considering amalgamation with The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and to this end has, through its Merger Committee, prepared a document entitled *An Introduction to the Merger Issue*, in which especially the advantages of merger are set forth; and

WHEREAS, An overture of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod to the National Evangelical Lutheran Church at this time would indicate our own interest in this issue; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod invite the National Evangelical Lutheran Church to establish organic union with our Synod; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Finnish Relations Committee be instructed to arrange the necessary meetings with the representatives of the National Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Committee on Doctrinal Unity of our Synod with a view toward establishing organic union.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**The Oakland, California, Theologians' Conference**

**RESOLUTION 3, COMMITTEE 3**

**Memorial 601, page 482, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Oakland, California, Theologians' Conference sponsored by Synod's Committee on Doctrinal Unity has been in-

strumental in bringing the Lutherans at present in fellowship with our Synod into closer and more active contact with one another; and

✓ WHEREAS, The duty and the privilege of mutual edification and of joint witness to the world and to the church everywhere will be more fully exercised because of such conferences; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we encourage and authorize the Committee on Doctrinal Unity to continue such efforts.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

### Studies in the Theology of Fellowship

#### RESOLUTION 4, COMMITTEE 3

Memorial 628, page 530, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, Synod at its 1956 convention requested its joint theological faculties to furnish comprehensive studies on fellowship, prayer fellowship, and unionism, and to make them available to the members of Synod at least one year prior to this (1959) convention; and

WHEREAS, Only the first section of these studies has been completed as of now; and

WHEREAS, This failure to carry out the request of Synod in the time allotted is to be regretted, particularly because of the immediate urgency of a clear and unequivocal statement on the matters assigned; and

WHEREAS, It is of utmost importance that these studies be completed and made available to the members of Synod at the earliest possible time; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the *Praesidium* of Synod encourage early completion of these studies by authorizing, through the proper channels, any necessary adjustments in the teaching schedules of the members of the faculty committees charged with this work.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

### Strengthening Provisions of Constitution Regarding Doctrinal Supervision and Discipline; Establishing a Commission to Study and Propose Supplementary Judicial Procedure for All Cases Involving Doctrinal Deviation

#### RESOLUTION 5, COMMITTEE 3

Memorial 615, pages 508—509, *Reports and Memorials*  
Unprinted Memorial 630

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WHEREAS, The attainment of the first object of our synodical constitution: "the conservation and promotion of the unity of the true faith and a united defense against schism and sectarianism," requires constant vigilance; and

WHEREAS, Synod's Constitution and By-Laws adequately provide for proper supervision of doctrine and practice; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Synod's *Praesidium* and all District *Praesidia* be encouraged to use every available means for proper supervision of doctrine and practice; and be it further

*Resolved*, That all congregations, pastors, and teachers heartily support such efforts of these elected officials.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Statement on Scripture

#### RESOLUTION 6, COMMITTEE 3

Memorial 601-A, page 483, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 627, page 529, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The Statement on Scripture submitted by the Committee on Doctrinal Unity is based on the teaching of the Holy Scriptures themselves; and

WHEREAS, The Statement on Scripture contains nothing new and is in harmony with the Lutheran Confessions and with the public teaching (*publica doctrina*) of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod; and

WHEREAS, This statement speaks clearly on questions relating to the doctrine of Holy Scripture; and

WHEREAS, This document was adopted by the Synodical Conference in convention assembled at Lakewood, Ohio, on Aug. 5—8, 1958; and

WHEREAS, The statement was published in the *Proceedings* of the afore-mentioned convention and also in THE LUTHERAN WITNESS (Feb. 24, 1959); therefore be it

*Resolved*, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod adopt the afore-mentioned *Statement on Scripture* as a true and correct exposition of the doctrine of the Holy Scriptures.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Statement on the Antichrist

#### RESOLUTION 7, COMMITTEE 3

Memorial 601-B, pages 486—491, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The Synodical Conference has not yet had an opportunity to act upon the *Statement on the Antichrist* adopted by the Joint Committees of the Synodical Conference, Oct. 15, 1958; and



WHEREAS, We deem it inadvisable for Synod to act on a Synodical Conference matter which is still before the Synodical Conference; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That action on the *Statement on the Antichrist* be deferred until the Synodical Conference has had an opportunity to consider this statement of the Joint Committees.

Action: This resolution was adopted.

**Report of the Committee on Woman Suffrage;  
Individual Congregations to Determine Woman's  
Right to Vote**

**RESOLUTION 8, COMMITTEE 3**

Memorial 604, page 494, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 605, page 497, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The committee appointed by the *Praesidium* as directed by the 1956 convention to study the place of woman in the church has submitted its report (*Reports and Memorials*, 494 to 497); and

WHEREAS, It is evident that this committee carefully reviewed the exegetical study on woman suffrage prepared by a previous committee, as reported in the *Proceedings* of the St. Paul convention, together with pertinent literature in the field; and

WHEREAS, Its findings indicate that the historic position of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod on this question is based on sound Scriptural principles; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we thank the committee for its conscientious and faithful labors; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we reaffirm the position of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod on the place of woman in the church as indicated in the theses prepared by the committee and recorded in the book of *Reports and Memorials*, pages 495 and 496; and be it further

*Resolved*, That in order to maintain the interest of the entire membership of our congregations in the affairs of the church, each congregation be encouraged to set up a system whereby, on matters which affect the whole congregation, all groups and individuals that are not directly represented in the voters' assembly may have opportunity to express their opinions and wishes prior to action on the matter by the voters' assembly; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That we urge all congregations which grant woman suffrage, whether now members of Synod or applying for membership, to recognize the validity of Synod's historic position and to

reconsider their practice with the view to bringing it into harmony with this position.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Subscribing to the "Brief Statement," the General Confessions, and Particular Symbols of the Lutheran Church; Teaching the Doctrine of Inspiration at Our Colleges and Seminaries; Using Scripture as the Word of God**

**RESOLUTION 9, COMMITTEE 3**

**Memorial 613, page 507, *Reports and Memorials***

**Memorial 619, page 512, *Reports and Memorials***

**Memorial 626, page 527, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The pastors, teachers, and professors of Synod at the time of their ordination and installation pledge themselves to be faithful to the Holy Scriptures and to the Lutheran Confessions (. . . "solemnly pledge to the Scriptures as the inspired and inerrant Word of God and to the Symbolical Books of the Lutheran Church as a true exposition of the Scriptures . . ." Synodical Handbook, 4.19; 4.21; 4.23); and

WHEREAS, Some persons have inquired as to the binding force of the *Brief Statement* as well as other statements on doctrine and practice formally adopted by Synod; and

WHEREAS, Article II-C of the Articles of Incorporation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod lists as an objective of Synod "to exercise supervision over such pastors and teachers as to doctrine, practice, and performance of their official duties"; therefore be it

**Resolved:**

A. That Synod further clarify its position by reaffirming that every doctrinal statement of a confessional nature adopted by Synod as a true exposition of the Holy Scriptures is to be regarded as public doctrine (*publica doctrina*) in Synod; and

B. That Synod's pastors, teachers, and professors are held to teach and act in harmony with such statements; and

C. That those who believe that such statements are not satisfactory in part or in their entirety are not to teach contrary to them, but rather are to present their concern to their brethren in the ministry, particularly in conferences, to the appropriate District officials, and if necessary to the synodical officials.

**Action:** This resolution was adopted after an amendment to paragraph "B" had been made and had been withdrawn.

### Revision and Expansion of the Catechism

#### RESOLUTION 10, COMMITTEE 3

Memorial 622, page 514, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The Board of Parish Education is recommending that it "be authorized to proceed with the preparation of three catechisms, one each for Grades 3—4, 5—6, 7—9" (*Reports and Memorials*, 1959, p. 280); therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the request for changes in the Catechism be referred to the Board of Parish Education.

**Action:** This resolution was adopted.

### Resolutions on Doctrinal Matters

#### RESOLUTION 11, COMMITTEE 3

Memorial 618, page 511, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 624, page 523, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, "All matters of doctrine and of conscience shall be decided only by the Word of God," (Constitution of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, Article VIII, C); and

WHEREAS, "If when matters of this kind are under consideration, a vote is taken, this dare not be done in order to let the majority of votes decide, but in order to learn by way of the vote whether all have recognized what is right and are in agreement with it" (Walther, *Pastoraltheologie*, 1872, page 372); and

WHEREAS, A vote by a synodical convention in a doctrinal matter is not intended to establish the doctrine, since only the Word of God can do this, but simply to determine assent to that which has been decided by the Word of God; and

WHEREAS, Unanimity in matters of doctrine and conscience is indeed necessary, as the fathers often stated, but may not always be attainable when an individual or group has not sufficiently understood the matter; and

WHEREAS, Where unanimity cannot be achieved, the voice of the majority must be accepted as the position of our Synod; and

WHEREAS, The Synod by an overwhelming majority declared that it finds the resolutions in question (*Reports and Memorials*, page 524, par. 5) in harmony with the Word of God; therefore be it

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*Resolved*, That the Synod decline the request of Memorials 618 and 624 to declare the contested resolutions "null and void"; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Synod urgently request those who find themselves in disagreement with the resolutions in question to restudy these matters prayerfully, in order that we may all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among us; but that we be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment (1 Cor. 1:10); and be it finally

*Resolved*, That where such disagreement persists, synodical officials (Circuit Counselor, District *Praesidium*, synodical *Praesidium*) deal with the persons in question.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Rejection of Report of Advisory Committee on Doctrine and Practice**

#### **RESOLUTION 12, COMMITTEE 3**

##### **Memorial 625, page 526, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Advisory Committee on Doctrine and Practice was assigned the duty of examining an essay delivered at conventions of the Southern California District and the California-Nevada District in 1949; and

WHEREAS, The Advisory Committee on Doctrine and Practice thoroughly studied this essay and consulted with its author with regard to its intent and meaning; and

WHEREAS, The Advisory Committee on Doctrine and Practice also consulted repeatedly and at length with those who objected to the position taken by the essay in question; and

WHEREAS, The published report of this committee showed that the committee dealt with the matters entrusted to it with eminent fairness; and

WHEREAS, The report clearly shows that the concerns expressed in Memorial 625 are without valid foundation and that the Word of God has not been violated; and

WHEREAS, The report of the Advisory Committee on Doctrine and Practice was approved by the 1956 synodical convention; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we reaffirm the approval of the report of the Advisory Committee on Doctrine and Practice given at that convention.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**“Intercessory Prayers for the Benefit of the Souls  
of the Dead,” etc.**

**RESOLUTION 13, COMMITTEE 3**

**Memorial 606, page 498, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The matters mentioned in Memorial 606 concerning “Intercessory Prayers for the Benefit of the Souls of the Dead” and “The Moment of the Real Presence in the Lord’s Supper” have been referred to the joint theological faculties of the Synod for appropriate studies (*Proceedings*, 1956, p. 551); and

WHEREAS, Such studies will be completed and will be published in the near future in the *Concordia Theological Monthly*; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the substance of the above-mentioned studies be published also in THE LUTHERAN WITNESS and DER LUTHERANER in such form as the discretion of the editors may suggest; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That any actions necessary in connection with the matters mentioned in Memorial 606 be left to the duly constituted synodical officials.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Apostolic Succession**

**RESOLUTION 14, COMMITTEE 3**

**Memorial 606, page 498, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Apostolic Succession is being discussed in some Lutheran circles; and

WHEREAS, A lack of clarity and conviction on this question can affect adversely a proper estimate of the nature and primary functions of the holy ministry; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the joint theological faculties of the Synod be requested to provide and to make available pertinent statements on this question.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**“Romanizing Tendencies”**

**RESOLUTION 15, COMMITTEE 3**

**Memorial 606, page 498, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The matter of “Romanizing tendencies” was referred by the 1956 convention to the College of Presidents for study and action (*Proceedings*, 1956, pp. 550–551); therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the College of Presidents be urged to continue its examination of this problem; and be it further

*Resolved*, That synodical and District officials be alert to the dangers involved and be instructed to deal properly and promptly whenever evidence of "Romanizing tendencies" becomes apparent.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Request for a Declaration by Synod**

#### **RESOLUTION 16, COMMITTEE 3**

Memorial 616, page 509, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in its resolutions of 1950 pertaining to the *Common Confession* (*Proceedings*, 1950, pp. 585—587) spoke of the intersynodical situation as it then existed and was then understood; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in its 1956 convention resolved that the *Common Confession*, while in harmony with Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, "hereafter . . . be not regarded or employed as a functioning basic document toward the establishment of altar and pulpit fellowship with other church bodies" (*Proceedings*, 1956, p. 505); and

WHEREAS, An answer to the question posed by Memorial 616 cannot affect the status of the *Common Confession* in The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod as defined by the 1956 resolutions; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Synod declare to be irrelevant the question posed by Memorial 616, "Does Synod still hold that the doctrinal differences between our Synod and the American Lutheran Church on matters treated by the two committees before our 1950 convention were settled in 1950?"

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **An Overture Relating to Publishing and Accepting a Statement of Faith**

#### **RESOLUTION 17, COMMITTEE 3**

Memorial 623, page 517, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, There are adequate "statements of faith" within the Synod and the Synodical Conference; and

WHEREAS, The wisdom of accepting privately initiated "statements of faith" within the severe time limits of a synodical convention can legitimately be questioned; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the signers of Memorial 623 be advised to find the answer to their laudable and justified concern for doctrinal unity and practice by employing the doctrinal statements already approved and the procedural channels authorized by The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Joining the Lutheran World Federation**

#### **RESOLUTION 18, COMMITTEE 3**

Memorials 608, 609, 610, 611, pages 502 ff., *Reports and Memorials*  
Memorial 629, page 531, *Reports and Memorials*  
Unprinted Memorial 636, page 74, *Today's Business*

WHEREAS, The Synod in its convention of 1956 resolved "that our Committee on Doctrinal Unity represent The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in future meetings with the officials of the Lutheran World Federation" (*Proceedings*, p. 538); and

WHEREAS, The Committee on Doctrinal Unity reports in *Reports and Memorials*, 1959 (p. 480), that it is at present engaged in discussion with the officials of the Lutheran World Federation; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod defer action on the question of membership in the Lutheran World Federation until the report of the Committee on Doctrinal Unity on this matter is available.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted* by a unanimous vote.

### **Meet with The American Lutheran Church to Establish God-pleasing Unity**

#### **RESOLUTION 19, COMMITTEE 3**

Memorial 614, page 507, *Reports and Memorials*  
Unprinted Memorial 638, page 454, *Today's Business*

WHEREAS, The American Lutheran Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church are planning the completion of their merger in 1960; and

WHEREAS, The Synod has repeatedly expressed its readiness to meet with other church bodies for doctrinal discussions; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Doctrinal Unity invite the representatives of the new The American Lutheran Church (TALC) to meet for the purpose of seeking a God-pleasing unity and fellowship; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the sister synods of the Synodical Conference be invited to join in this endeavor; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That this invitation be extended to The American Lutheran Church (TALC) at its initial convention.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Affiliation with National Lutheran Council**

#### **RESOLUTION 20, COMMITTEE 3**

**Memorial 620, page 513, *Reports and Memorials***

**Unprinted Memorial 631, page 60, *Today's Business***

WHEREAS, The question of our relationship with the National Lutheran Council is currently under discussion by the Committee on Doctrinal Unity; and

WHEREAS, The Committee on Doctrinal Unity is planning an exploratory meeting with officials of the National Lutheran Council; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Synod defer action on the question of membership in the National Lutheran Council until the report of the Committee on Doctrinal Unity is available.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Observers at Assembly of World Council of Churches**

#### **RESOLUTION 21, COMMITTEE 3**

**Memorial 621, page 514, *Reports and Memorials***

**Unprinted Memorial 633, page 65, *Today's Business***

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in 1947, 1952, and 1957 sent invited official observers to the Lutheran World Federation assemblies; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod was unofficially represented at the 1948 and 1954 assemblies of the World Council of Churches; and

WHEREAS, Experience has shown that our presence at such meetings is of value to us in keeping informed on the church world; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod be represented by official observers at the 1961 assembly of the World Council of Churches in Ceylon; and be it further

*Resolved*, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod be represented by official observers at other similar conventions, such as those of the National Association of Evangelicals and the Lutheran World Federation; and be it finally



*Resolved*, That the arrangement for such representation be made by the *Praesidium* of the Synod in consultation with the Committee on Doctrinal Unity.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **B. D. Thesis on Christ's Descent Into Hell**

#### **RESOLUTION 22, COMMITTEE 3**

##### **Unprinted Memorial 637, page 92, *Today's Business***

WHEREAS, The B. D. Thesis referred to in Unprinted Memorial 637 and on file at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo., calls attention to certain problems connected with the doctrine of Christ's descent into hell, but does not actually deny the doctrine of the descent into hell; and

WHEREAS, The author of the thesis did later deny this doctrine in an altered copy of the thesis, but was dealt with according to Matthew 18 by the proper officials, retracted his error, stated in writing his agreement with the doctrine of the Lutheran Confessions on the Descent into Hell, and rectified his error; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod declare this matter settled, and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Synod request the faculty of Concordia Seminary to attach a copy of this resolution to the thesis in question.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Prominence Given Doctrinal Discussions at Conferences**

#### **RESOLUTION 23, COMMITTEE 3**

##### **Memorial 615, page 508, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The very life and health of the church depend on soundness of doctrine and practice; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Synod remind all pastors' and teachers' conferences, whether on the circuit, regional, or District level, to give due prominence on their programs to the study of Christian doctrine and its application to life (*Synodical Handbook*, 4.101; 4.103; 4.107; 4.111); and be it further

*Resolved*, That Synod ask all conference program committees and officers to carry out the provision of this resolution.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**COMMITTEE 4 — Parish Education****School Promotion****RESOLUTION 1, COMMITTEE 4**

**Memorial 201, page 237, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Our Lutheran elementary schools have shown marvelous growth; and

WHEREAS, These schools are a great blessing to the children attending them and to the church; and

WHEREAS, Establishing a school on a sound basis requires careful and long-range planning; and

WHEREAS, In some of this planning both the District Board of Education and the District Mission Board are involved; therefore be it

*Resolved:*

a) That District Boards of Education and District Mission Boards be encouraged to continue and intensify their efforts in the interest of schools, and that they consult where responsibilities for school promotion overlap;

b) That District Boards of Education

1. offer their services to promising congregations by way of advice and planning; and

2. assist areas where interparish schools seem advisable to make the necessary surveys and studies;

c) That District Mission Boards

1. urge new congregations to list the school as a goal in their constitutions; and

2. acquire sites and erect initial building units which encourage a broad program of Christian education, including an eventual school.

**Action:** After a paragraph under b had been deleted, this resolution was *adopted* as printed above.

**School Improvement****RESOLUTION 2, COMMITTEE 4**

**Memorial 201, page 240, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Only good schools have a place in the church's program; and

WHEREAS, A good school must provide sound indoctrination, foster a Christian view of life, and exert an over-all Christian influence; and

WHEREAS, Both District Boards and congregations are involved in keeping our Lutheran elementary schools on a high level of efficiency and performance; and

WHEREAS, Many factors go into making a good school; therefore be it

*Resolved:*

a) That District Boards continue and intensify their efforts to encourage in-service training through principals' conferences, workshops for beginning teachers, summer school attendance on the part of teachers, and other useful means;

b) That congregations be urged to

1. recognize and discuss the rising levels of teacher training and the trend toward higher certification requirements;

2. encourage and assist their teachers financially in striving to meet certification requirements;

c) That congregations and their boards of education be encouraged to emphasize the school principalship as a position of responsibility, both for general leadership in Christian education and for school administration;

d) That congregations and their boards of education be encouraged to engage in continuous and systematic evaluation of the school for the purpose of identifying school strengths and weaknesses and for correction of weaknesses.

**Action:** After paragraph 3 under b had been deleted and several changes in the wording had been proposed and accepted, this resolution was *adopted* as printed above.

### **Recruitment**

#### **RESOLUTION 3, COMMITTEE 4**

##### **Memorial 201, page 241, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The need for pastors and teachers is great and is increasing; and

WHEREAS, Recruitment is essentially a congregational matter; therefore be it

*Resolved:*

a) That congregations be encouraged to study their own contribution to the supply of full-time church workers in the Synod;

b) That congregations encourage their qualified young people to train for the full-time church vocations; and

c) That congregations make an official board, perhaps the board of education, responsible for recruitment of young men and young women for church vocations.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

## **Providing More School Textbooks and Instructional Materials**

### **RESOLUTION 4, COMMITTEE 4**

**Memorial 159, page 214, *Reports and Memorials*; and Board of Education Report, page 242, Section E, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Christian textbooks and other instructional materials are important tools in Christian education; and

WHEREAS, The preparation of such materials is time-consuming and costly; and

WHEREAS, The high cost has often made it impossible to release competent persons from other duties to permit them to give full attention to writing assignments; therefore be it

*Resolved:*

a) That the Board of Parish Education outline the specific needs for textbooks and other instructional materials;

b) That the Board of Parish Education be encouraged to apply to the Fiscal Conference and/or the Board of Directors for funds deemed necessary for any given project.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

## **The Teacher and Other Parish Work**

### **RESOLUTION 5, COMMITTEE 4**

**Memorial 201, page 241, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, It is a matter of good stewardship to make use of the talents of our teachers to the greatest possible extent; and

WHEREAS, Ordinarily every teacher has a potential for parish service beyond the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Such parish service benefits both the congregation and the teacher; and

WHEREAS, Our women teachers could perform many of the duties asked of a special parish worker; and

WHEREAS, It is desirable that our women teachers be employed for twelve months, rather than for nine, ten, or eleven months, as is the practice in many congregations; therefore be it

*Resolved,* That local boards of education be encouraged to study the needs of leadership in the total parish program with a view to achieving a) the best use of the teachers' talents in the congregations' total program of parish education; and b) an equitable distribution of tasks to be performed (so that each teacher achieves his full potential, yet none is overburdened to the detriment of his school tasks).

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Teachers' Salaries****RESOLUTION 6, COMMITTEE 4****Memorial 201, page 242, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, Teachers' salaries are in many cases inadequate; and

WHEREAS, Many congregations have found salary schedules helpful; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That congregations with schools be encouraged to review salaries annually and consider the advisability of adopting an up-to-date, realistic salary schedule which takes into account years of service, years of training, and special responsibilities, and one which will encourage our teachers to continue in this field and our members to enter the teaching field.

**Action:** After several amendments had been accepted, this resolution was *adopted* as printed above.

**Bible Institutes****RESOLUTION 7, COMMITTEE 4****Memorial 201, page 260, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, The number of Bible institutes in the Synod is constantly growing; and

WHEREAS, It is desirable to have a good degree of uniformity in the standards of these institutes; and

WHEREAS, The blessings of Bible institute instruction are not being enjoyed as yet in many areas of the Synod; therefore be it

*Resolved:*

a) That existing Bible institutes be encouraged to broaden their scope and to offer courses to meet the needs of their constituent congregations and of all types of volunteer workers — church officers, workers with children, youth, and adults — for the purpose of deepening and broadening the understanding of the Bible and Christian doctrine among all who attend these institutes;

b) That our Bible institutes be encouraged to accept the standards set forth in *Guidelines for Bible Institutes* and work toward certification in order to improve both the stability and the quality of teaching;

c) That we encourage the circuits of the Synod to consider incorporating a Bible institute into the leadership-training plans of the circuit.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Vacation Bible School Workshops****RESOLUTION 8, COMMITTEE 4**

**Memorial 201, page 254, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The vacation Bible schools are conducted for a short time during the summer and the teachers in this school are, therefore, not provided a regular training period comparable to that provided for Sunday school teachers; and

WHEREAS, In order to make the vacation Bible school an effective agency of Christian education, the workers in the vacation Bible school must be well prepared to teach the children entrusted to their care; and

WHEREAS, The interest and enthusiasm of workers in the vacation Bible school is an important factor in making this agency an effective arm of Christian education; and

WHEREAS, The vacation Bible school workshop sponsored by District boards of education on the circuit or "population area" level is one effective way to meet the needs mentioned above; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod encourage all District Boards in co-operation with their circuit keymen in education to conduct annual vacation Bible school workshops in all circuits for the purpose of training and preparing teachers for effective teaching in this agency.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Encouragement of Weekday Programs****RESOLUTION 9, COMMITTEE 4**

**Memorial 201, page 254, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Saturday schools and weekday programs of Christian education present congregations with opportunities to provide added Christian instruction; and

WHEREAS, The laws of some states permit released-time instruction; and

WHEREAS, It is often possible to gather children of the congregation on a weekday afternoon or evening for the purpose of Christian education; and

WHEREAS, The Saturday school affords three or more hours for religious instruction for all children from ages 6 to 13; and

WHEREAS, Congregations have the responsibility of providing a maximum of Christian education for all their children; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod urge congregations, where needed or practicable, to make use of the released-time program, or of the free-time school on a weekday, or of the Saturday school program as opportunities for expanding their educational programs.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Catechism Materials**

#### **RESOLUTION 10, COMMITTEE 4**

##### **Memorial 201, page 280, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The present revised synodical Catechism has been in use for almost twenty years; and

WHEREAS, There have been repeated requests for simplified, graded, and pedagogically up-to-date catechetical materials; and

WHEREAS, The Board for Higher Education has appointed an advisory Catechism Committee which has made an intensive study of the needs in this area, and has made a comprehensive report on its findings to the board, with a view to meeting the needs and implementing a procedure for producing the materials; therefore be it

*Resolved*,

a) That the Board of Parish Education be authorized to proceed with the preparation of three catechisms, one each for Grades 3—4, 5—6, and 7—9;

b) That the Board of Parish Education consider the advisability of preparing a book for Grades 1 and 2 that could be used not only in the agencies of the church — especially the school — but also for home instruction;

c) That the Board of Parish Education give further study to the need for catechetical helps (teacher's manuals, workbooks, etc.) after the manuscripts for the catechisms have been approved;

d) That each of these catechisms shall contain Luther's Enchiridion as it appears in the Book of Concord (1580), which includes Confession but not the Office of the Keys. Although the Office of the Keys is not included as a chief part in the Enchiridion, the subject shall be treated in the exposition at the appropriate place or places.

e) That the Synod authorize the Board of Parish Education to produce these books as follows:

1. The Board is to appoint a five-member Catechism Committee to guide the development of these catechisms. This committee is to receive and consider specific suggestions, deal with authors, keep the Board of Parish Education informed of develop-

ments, and have its actions and the final manuscripts approved by the Board of Parish Education.

2. Authors and consultants shall be selected and appointed by the Board of Parish Education upon recommendation of the committee. Each of the catechisms shall have a single author, but each author shall have several consultants, preferably chosen from among teachers and pastors working on the grade level for which the author is writing.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Statement on Interfaith or Mixed Marriages**

#### **RESOLUTION 11, COMMITTEE 4**

##### **Memorial 201, page 272, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The 1953 synodical convention requested the Family Life Committee of the Board of Parish Education to submit a statement for the guidance of pastors and congregations with regard to interfaith or mixed marriages; and

WHEREAS, The number of mixed marriages is rising and resulting in an alarming increase in the number of Lutheran parties to such marriages who fall away from their church, and whose children are not being instructed in the Lutheran faith; therefore be it

*Resolved,*

a) That the Statement on Interfaith or Mixed Marriages (*Reports and Memorials*, pp. 262-272) be adopted with the following revisions:

1. P. 264, line 13: "Roman Catholic doctrine of good works" changed to "Roman Catholic doctrine regarding good works."

2. P. 265, No. 3, line 5: "peaceful and harmonious coexistence" changed to "peace and harmony."

3. P. 266, No. 4, line 20: "From the foregoing it is therefore obvious that the spiritual unity between the married partners and the Christian training of children usually will suffer serious limitations in a marriage between a Christian and a non-Christian." Changed to "From the foregoing it is obvious that in a marriage between a Lutheran and a non-Christian there can be no spiritual unity between the married partners, and the Christian training of the children usually will suffer serious limitations."

4. P. 268, line 4: "falling in love with a Roman Catholic" changed to "'falling in love' with a Roman Catholic or with any other person with whom it would be impossible or very difficult to achieve spiritual unity."

5. P. 268, No. 6, line 21: "the Roman Catholic marriage oath" changed to "this agreement."



6. P. 269, line 6: "Where husband and wife feel that they must go separate ways regarding their religion but nevertheless accept Jesus Christ to be their Savior, they should be encouraged —

a) to exercise the patience of Christ in their struggle for the truth;

b) to read the Word of God together;

c) to confess together the three articles of the Apostolic and Nicene Creeds;

d) to unite in the praying of the "Lord's Prayer" changed to "Where husband and wife, while of different denominational persuasion, nevertheless accept Jesus Christ to be their Savior, they should be encouraged to read and discuss the Word of God together; exercise the patience of Christ in their study of the truth; and, as they find agreement, confess together the Apostles' Creed and unite in table prayers and the Lord's Prayer." Be it further

*Resolved,*

b) That Synod encourage its pastors and congregations to use this Statement as a guide in dealing with religiously mixed marriages;

c) That the Family Life Committee be requested to produce tracts and other practical educational material on this subject to guide our young people and parents.

**Action:** This resolution, after having been amended by inserting the statement "The Lutheran party should be encouraged steadfastly to witness to the truth" (line 25, page 268, *Reports and Memorials*), was *adopted*.

**NOTE:** The corrected and amended Statement on Interfaith or Mixed Marriages is as follows:

#### **F. Statement on Interfaith or Mixed Marriages**

In compliance with the request of Synod (*Proceedings*, 1953, pp. 345, 346) the Family Life Committee of the Board for Parish Education submits the following statement for the guidance of pastors and congregations with regard to interfaith or mixed marriages.

##### **1. General Principles**

Marriage in the Christian view, as ordained by God, is the personal and sexual union of one man and one woman in a continuing relationship of mutual love and service based on fidelity toward each other (Matt. 19:4-6; 1 Cor. 7:10, 11, 39). The purpose of this lifelong union is fulfilled in the intimate one-flesh relationships, in mutual helpfulness, and in the procreation and rearing of children. This marriage union involves physical, economic, social,

psychological, and spiritual factors which may lead either to unity or to divisiveness.

In marriage, as in personal life, spiritual factors are of primary concern. For Christians, the highest expression of mutual love in marriage is comparable to the redeeming love of Christ of His church (Eph. 5:18-33; Rev. 21:2-9). Something less than this high ideal may obtain in a marriage because of variant factors which may in turn disturb or endanger its well-being and be detrimental to family relationships and to the training of the children. Factors which militate against or obviate the spiritual unity of the marriage are of special concern to the church in its ministry to families. *Differences in religious beliefs and attitudes are fundamental differences which imply wide areas of conflict in church and family loyalties, responsibilities, and relationships.*<sup>1</sup>

Concern for the spiritual welfare of the members of the body of Christ should cause parents, teachers, pastors, and leaders of young people to be sensitive to the urgent need of providing in the home, in the church, and in the educational program such instruction as will enable youth, before or as they arrive at the age of forming intimate friendships between sexes, to understand and appreciate the divergent teachings and interpretations relative to marriage and other doctrines held by different religious bodies. As a church, we are to be concerned that our young people do not enter into marriage relationships which would make it impossible for them to enjoy a wholesome Christian family life or which would require them to compromise or surrender their personal Christian convictions and responsibilities (Joshua 24:15; John 8:31, 32) or which would hinder them from speaking the Word of God to each other. (Col. 3:16)

## 2. Lutheran-Roman Catholic Marriages

Marriages between Lutherans and Roman Catholics raise serious and special problems for the following reasons:

a. The two faiths differ in fundamental doctrines. Of special note is the fact that the entire spirit and way of thinking in the Roman Catholic Church is different: the church and its interpretation is placed above the Bible and guides the conscience; while for the Lutheran the conscience instructed by the Word of God is the guide.

<sup>1</sup> "All the studies made indicate that the greater the similarity of religious background, the greater the chances of success in marriage. The greater the differences, the greater the risks of failure." From *When You Marry*, Evelyn Millis Duvall and Reuben Hill (New York: Association Press, 1953), p. 390.

"The Roman Catholic Church is the one true church. There is no such thing as equality of religions from the Catholic standpoint. Therefore, to have offspring reared in another faith is a catastrophe, since it denies to the persons for whom one has the greatest love the grace of the sacraments and solaces of Roman Catholicism in life and death." — Father John J. Kane, *Marriage and the Family* (New York: The Dryden Press, Inc., 1952), p. 152.

Lutherans cannot accept such Roman Catholic teachings as their doctrine of the church, the adoration of the Virgin Mary and of the saints, the false Roman Catholic Mass, and the erroneous Roman Catholic doctrine regarding good works.

On the teachings of marriage itself, Lutherans and Roman Catholics differ as to its essence, purpose, and importance. Roman Catholicism considers celibacy a higher estate than that of marriage.<sup>2</sup> Lutherans deny this and hold that marriage is an honorable and God-pleasing estate for all (Heb. 13:4; Apology of the Augsburg Confession, Art. XXIII). Roman Catholicism also teaches that marriage is a sacrament governed by the church, valid for its own members only if performed by a priest.<sup>3</sup> Lutherans look upon marriage as an arrangement instituted by God at creation for all human beings. While Lutherans regard marriage as sacred and blessed by the Creator, they deny that marriage as such bestows God's sanctifying grace *ex opere operato*, that is, by virtue of an inherent power.<sup>4</sup> Roman Catholicism, moreover, holds that the chief purpose of marriage is procreation,<sup>5</sup> but Lutheranism recognizes also mutual helpfulness as one of its primary purposes.

b. Under conditions imposed by modern Roman Canon Law,<sup>6</sup> the required premarriage agreement which the non-Catholic party must sign if the marriage ceremony is to be performed by a priest, binds the Lutheran party to the promise that all children of the marriage are to be reared in the Roman Catholic faith and that no attempt to dissuade the Roman Catholic partner will be made by the non-Catholic. In fact, the Roman Catholic party must promise by a signed pledge to do all in his or her power, by means of word and example, to bring about the conversion of the non-Catholic spouse to the religious faith of the Roman Catholic

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<sup>2</sup> Canon 10, Council of Trent, in *Creeds of Christendom*, ed. Philip Schaff (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1877).

<sup>3</sup> Canon 1012.

<sup>4</sup> Mario Colacci, *Christian Marriage Today* (Minneapolis: Augsburg Publishing House, 1958), pp. 61, 62.

<sup>5</sup> Canon 1013.

<sup>6</sup> Canon 1061.

Church.<sup>7</sup> Before the actual dispensation to marry is granted, the non-Catholic party is usually urged by the parish priest to take instruction in the Roman Catholic religion.

"The religious factor which, under normal circumstances, should contribute to keep all the members of a family together and which should be of great help in facing and overcoming prayerfully the sometimes inevitable problems between husband and wife, parents and children, is bound instead in a marriage like this to become an insurmountable wall dividing the parents from each other and the children from their parents."<sup>8</sup>

The promise which the non-Catholic party must make places a burden upon his conscience and silences his witness. No one, we believe, should do anything contrary to his religious convictions or the voice of his God-instructed conscience (1 Tim. 1:19; James 4:17). If one signs the pledge with no intention of keeping it, this act should be classified as a morally dishonest one. (Mal. 3:5)

In summary, the Roman Catholic premarriage agreement demands that the Lutheran party must sign away his rights and obligations —

a) to testify to his or her own spouse concerning "the hope that is in him," namely, salvation solely through the atoning blood of Christ and justification in God's sight by faith alone, a faith which works by love (1 Peter 3:15; Rom. 3:28; Gal. 5:6);

b) to teach, influence, and train his or her own children according to the command to "bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord," fully according to the Word of God and not according to the traditions of man. (Eph. 6:4; John 8:31; Mark 7:7, 9, 13)

No Christian should willfully deny the exercise of his Christian duty or make agreements which disparage or compromise his basic Christian beliefs. He must not submit to church laws which are inconsistent with the Gospel.

### 3. Marriages Between Lutherans and Other Protestants

Although the marriage between two Protestants of different denominations may not present the same practical and religious difficulties as the marriage between a Protestant and a Roman Catholic, yet religious agreement between husband and wife is undoubtedly one of the major factors in securing that peace and

<sup>7</sup> Canon 1062. These canons may be found in *Marriage Legislation in the New Code of Canon Law*, by Rev. P. J. Lydon (New York: Benziger Brothers, Inc., 1949).

<sup>8</sup> Colacci, p. 115.

harmony which makes possible the normal function and development of Christian family life. (1 Cor. 12:13)

The differences in both doctrinal beliefs and outward practices within the various Protestant denominations are sometimes such that essential agreement is difficult or impossible to achieve. Theological differences, differences in the actual form of worship, and differences in the ethical expression of the Christian faith may involve the central teachings of the Christian faith and hence become unquestionably vital. A faithful Lutheran married to a partner who does not believe in Infant Baptism, who attends public worship on Saturday, or who believes that the Old Testament Law is still binding on the Christian people of the New Covenant, may have to live in a religiously divided home where subjects vital to a Christian are seldom discussed and where Bible reading, prayer, and family worship are greatly hindered or entirely neglected. Christians whose faith is clearly founded in Holy Scripture cannot compromise their fundamental beliefs. (1 Cor. 1:10; John 18:37)

#### 4. Marriage Between Lutherans and Non-Christian Partners

Although marriage is God's design for all human beings, it "becomes Christian when (in a given case) the marriage relationship is entered into in the light of Holy Scripture, when the purpose of marriage specified in Scripture and a Christian pattern of life are accepted by husband and wife, and when the husband and wife recognize each other as persons for whom Christ died and desire to live together as heirs of the grace of life. Their relationship is more than consent and sexual union. To them marriage is a sacred trust, a fellowship honorable and God-pleasing by which each is to enrich the other physically, mentally, socially, and spiritually."<sup>9</sup> In addition, "Christians are united in marriage not only by their mutual vows but also by their common faith in Jesus Christ as their Savior from sin and as the Lord of their lives. Their lifelong companionship and mutual assistance are enriched by a spiritual factor which is specifically Christian: the self-giving love which the New Testament teaches. . . . It is this love that breaks down human selfishness and becomes the deterrent for many factors in modern life which militate against Christian marriage ethics."<sup>10</sup>

From the foregoing it is obvious that in a marriage between a Lutheran and a non-Christian there can be no spiritual unity between the married partners, and the Christian training of the

<sup>9</sup> *Engagement and Marriage* (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1959) p. 165.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 166.

children usually will suffer serious limitations. The relation of the husband and wife and children is to be "in the Lord" (Col. 3:18, 20). Christians are admonished to "take a wife in sanctification and honor" (1 Thess. 4:3-7).<sup>11</sup> Christian widows, if they marry, are to marry "in the Lord." (1 Cor. 7:39)

Marriages with Jews present both religious and cultural difficulties that may involve a compromise of the evangelical faith. While the opportunity exists to witness to the saving faith in Jesus, the Christ of Old Testament prophecy, religion may be an area of tension which persists all through the marriage. Circumstances may minimize or even silence a clear Christian witness and thwart the true unity of the family. Heartaches come to homes where faith cannot be openly confessed and practiced.

#### 5. Procedures for Applying the Principles of Action in an Evangelical Manner

The primary principle for constructive action by the congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is guidance through adequate education and counseling. By every possible means we should give our young people opportunity to seek and find a clear understanding of the principles which underlie their Christian faith. Our task is to build them up in a positive and vital Christian faith and to instruct them in the wisdom of choosing life partners of similar Christian beliefs who will share with them in marriage a mutual love for Christ.

A clear understanding of the meaning of Christian marriage will enable them to exercise an instructed conscience and valid judgment when faced with a possible situation in which marriage promises would deny them the privilege of a Christian home, compromise their oneness in Christ, and hamper the Christian training of children. A positive approach is to urge our young people to stand on their rights as self-respecting responsible Christians. In no event should they enter into a marriage contract which would place them in a position of disadvantage in their family relationships and in the training of their children. In confirmation instruction, in youth groups, in Bible classes, in family life education, and in personal counseling sessions positive and constructive information, motivation, and practical guidance concerning Christian marriage should be given to our young people with regard to —

- a) the establishment of a truly Christian home;
- b) the choosing of a life partner among those with whom they may be one in Christian faith and love.

<sup>11</sup> William F. Arndt and F. Wilbur Gingrich, *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament* (London: Cambridge University Press, 1957), s. v. "Skeuos."

Parents, youth leaders, pastors, Christian teachers, and elders need to exercise Christian concern regarding "dating as a search for a mate" and supply the necessary positive and negative instruction early enough "so that the mind directs the search before the emotions are involved." Children and young people must be insistently warned against "falling in love" with a Roman Catholic or with any other person with whom it would be impossible or very difficult to achieve spiritual unity. Where pastor, Christian teachers, elders, and youth leaders raise no voice in warning, offer little by way of instruction, and give inadequate personal counsel in the time of courtship, the congregation itself must share the blame for unhappy interfaith marriages.

#### 6. Where an Interfaith Marriage Exists

In dealing with members of the Lutheran Church who have entered into an interfaith or mixed marriage, the church should exercise sympathetic understanding and sincerely endeavor to save and build the marriage with its counseling ministry. The following principles of action should apply:

a. Where marriage has taken place, it should be saved, not destroyed. The words of Jesus apply, "What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder" (Matt. 19:6). St. Paul tells the Christian to remain even with an unconverted spouse. (1 Cor. 7:12, 13)

b. The Lutheran party should be strengthened in his faith and in his fellowship with his congregation. No marriage should be the cause of severing one's relation with Jesus Christ as personal Savior and with the church of which He alone is the Head.

c. The Lutheran party should be brought to the conviction that his Christian liberty and a clear, untrammelled conscience are to be safeguarded. The Lutheran party should be encouraged steadfastly to witness to the truth. Those being counseled should be warned against relinquishing and denying the freedom which Christ died to earn for them. When the Lutheran party who has signed the Roman Catholic premarriage agreement is convinced in his or her own conscience that this agreement is to be repudiated, such action should be undertaken after due discussion with the spouse. In such discussion, patient witness and Biblical instruction should be brought to bear in the spirit of Christian love. In all situations the Lutheran spouse should not act arbitrarily or spitefully but endeavor so to witness within his family that both spouse and the children are led closer to their Savior and to Christian doctrine as revealed to us in the Holy Scriptures.

d. In every case of an interfaith or mixed marriage, the pastor

and the Christian congregation should bring their concerned and effective witness to bear, speaking the Word of truth "person to person" and "in love," seeking (1) to build up the marriage on a solid Christian base, considering both parties in this ministry; (2) to bring the Lutheran party, as well as his or her spouse, of whatever religious persuasion, to the conscientious conviction that a Christian cannot be denied the right and duty of witnessing to the truth and teaching his children the Word of God. Only faith-destroying impenitence, not weakness, warrants the full application of Matt. 18:15-18.

Where husband and wife, while of different denominational persuasion, nevertheless accept Jesus Christ to be their Savior, they should be encouraged to read and discuss the Word of God together; exercise the patience of Christ in their study of the truth; and, as they find agreement, confess together the Apostles' Creed and unite in table prayers and the Lord's Prayer.

This is both possible and necessary: possible, because both have been baptized into Christ; necessary, because otherwise they may become either wholly indifferent or even bitter toward the Christian faith.

The Christian congregation should show special concern for people in a mixed marriage; comfort them with good counsel; and assist them so that truth and love have their right, and a joyful faith may be developed and maintained. The church must be fully confident that the Gospel has more power and promise than legalism.

The church will employ constructive procedure in endeavoring to (1) instruct, (2) build, and (3) heal. The faith of Christians must be safeguarded and the marriage preserved as well. Barriers are not to be erected between the couple, but the faith of Christians is to be strengthened. To pronounce excommunication in an arbitrary manner on the basis of a refusal to abrogate the Roman Catholic premarriage agreement is to deal legalistically. Such action is not in keeping with the task of the church to instruct, admonish, and strengthen its members with the means of grace, leading them through repentance and faith to wholeness of life. Excommunication can be valid only when the party involved persistently refuses to hear admonition or to exercise his responsibility to upbuild the Christian church in his home and to bring up his children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Until evidence of rejecting God's truth is manifested, the Lutheran party should by all means be supported in his witness by Word and Sacrament. Where the Roman Catholic premarriage agreement is not renounced, the reason should be determined and Christian admonition employed in patience and charity, with each case weighed in the light of its own particular and variant circumstances.



### Addenda

There is a high incidence of broken homes or disunity in Roman Catholic-Protestant marriages and in Lutheran mixed marriages. The chief point of conflict involves religious differences and the education of children. Statistical studies from both Protestant and Roman Catholic sources substantiate this fact.

*Study 1:* James H. S. Bossard and Harold C. Letts, "Mixed Marriages Involving Lutherans — A Research Report" (a study made at the direction of the ULCA), in *Marriage and Family Living* (Minneapolis: The National Council on Family Relations, Vol. XVIII, Nov. 1956), pp. 308—310.

1) Mixed marriages increased from 46 per cent for the years 1936—40 to 58 per cent in 1946—50. This trend and proportion coincides with studies reported by Roman Catholic scholars (cf. John L. Thomas, "The Factor of Religion in the Selection of Marriage Mates," *American Sociological Review*, 16:489, August 1951).

2) Almost twice as many Lutheran women as men contracted such marriages. Of a total of 11,574 mixed marriages involving Lutherans, 64.1 per cent were women, and 35.9 per cent were men.

3) Of each 100 marriages in 9,963 cases, 20 were with Roman Catholics; 57 were with other Protestants; 19 were with non-church members; three were with other non-Protestants; one was with a Jewish mate.

4) The adjustment which Lutherans made in church membership after consummating a mixed marriage. In 9,170 cases, 35 per cent remained active in their own church; 40 per cent brought their mate to the Lutheran Church; ten per cent of Lutherans left their church and joined that of the non-Lutheran mate; seven per cent of both parties dropped out of church. In remaining cases the membership adjustment was not known.

5) How mixed marriages affected the religious rearing of children. Of 5,796 children involved, 65 per cent were reared in the Lutheran Church; 18 per cent were reared in the church of the non-Lutheran; seven per cent were reared in a church other than that of either parent; ten per cent were not reared in any church.

*Study 2:* "It is estimated that more than half of the men in mixed marriages and more than a third of the women drop their church contacts altogether." John Charles Wynn, *Pastoral Ministry to Families* (Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1957), p. 118.

*Study 3:* David R. Mace, "The Truth About Mixed Marriages," *Woman's Home Companion*, July 1951, lists five propositions:

1) Differences in religious attitudes are fundamental differences.

- 2) Religious differences always imply wide areas of conflict.
- 3) Church loyalties and family loyalties will usually clash.
- 4) Tensions with in-laws are often acute.
- 5) The upbringing of children presents constant problems.

*Study 4: Ave Maria Report, 1956*, by Ave Maria Press, Notre Dame, Ind. Three separate studies in Michigan, Maryland, and Washington, covering a total of 24,184 families, revealed that divorce and separation are "about three times higher in mixed Catholic-Protestant marriages than in marriages where both parties are of the same faith." In one study of 132 parishes in the East and Middle West, Father John Thomas, S. J., found that 39.6 per cent of all mixed marriages were not sanctioned by Catholic nuptials. A survey by the Catholic Bishops' Committee on Mixed Marriage, covering seven archdioceses and 43 dioceses from 1932 to 1941, found that about 30 per cent of Catholics involved in a mixed marriage became lost to the faith. The 1956 *Official Catholic Directory* reports 84,720 valid mixed marriages out of a total of 324,907 marriages involving a Catholic. This means that only one marriage out of every four which involved a Catholic party was listed as valid, that is, approved by the church and witnessed by a priest. (Figures compiled from *The Official Catholic Directory*, copyrighted 1956 by P. J. Kenedy and Sons.) The report also states, "The divorce and separation rate is also about three times higher in mixed Catholic-Protestant marriages than in marriages where both parties are of the same faith. The best evidence we have indicates that in the United States the promises made in mixed marriages that the children will be raised as Catholics are not kept in about 30 per cent of all mixed marriages. One YMCA survey found that where one parent was Protestant and the other Catholic, only 34 per cent of their sons were practicing members of either faith."

#### ROMAN CATHOLIC STATEMENTS

"The Church everywhere most severely forbids the contracting of marriage between two baptized persons of whom one is a Catholic whereas the other is a member of a heretical or schismatic sect; and if there is danger of perversion for the Catholic party and the children, the marriage is forbidden also by the divine law." (Canon 1050, quoted, Colacci, p. 18)

"The non-Catholic party shall have given a guarantee to remove all danger of perversion from the Catholic party, and both parties shall have given guarantees to baptize and educate all the children in the Catholic faith alone." (Canon 1061, quoted, Colacci, p. 110)

*The Roman Catholic Premarriage Agreement*

"I, the undersigned, not a member of the Catholic Church, wishing to contract marriage with N. N., a member of the Catholic Church, propose to do so with the understanding that the marriage bond thus contracted is indissoluble, except by death. I promise on my word and honor that I will not in any way hinder or obstruct the said N. N. in the exercise of her (or his) religion and that all the children of either sex born of our marriage shall be baptized and educated in the Catholic faith and according to the teachings of the Catholic Church, even though the said N. N. should be taken away by death. I further promise that I will marry N. N. only according to the marriage rite of the Catholic Church, that I will not, either before or after the Catholic Ceremony, present myself with N. N. for marriage before a civil magistrate or minister of the Gospel." (Note: This is the most common form of the agreement which in wording may vary from diocese to diocese. See pp. 110, 111, of Colacci.)

**Request to Reject Part of Statement on Interfaith  
Marriages**

**RESOLUTION 12, COMMITTEE 4**

Unprinted Memorial 635, *Today's Business*, page 72

With regard to Unprinted Memorial 635, the objections to Section "E," page 269, listed in the memorial, have been duly considered by Committee 4, and the committee feels that these concerns have been adequately dealt with in the changes made in the above-named section.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**NOTE:** For complete text of the Statement on Interfaith or Mixed Marriages see page 205 of the *Proceedings*.

**Soul Accounting**

**RESOLUTION 13, COMMITTEE 4**

Memorial 201, page 245, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The Sunday school is the basic educational agency of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in reaching members of the church; and

WHEREAS, The Sunday school enrollment is growing very rapidly; and

WHEREAS, One out of five Americans moves from one locality to another every year; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That all congregations of the Synod be urged to keep an exact soul-accounting system and home contact with all families, also with the families enrolled in Sunday school, and to transfer all who move, in order that families which might otherwise be lost may be received into membership with sister congregations in the locality where they settle.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Evangelism Through the Sunday School**

#### **RESOLUTION 14, COMMITTEE 4**

##### **Memorial 201, page 246, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Our church of more than 2,000,000 souls reports an enrollment of only 66,000 pupils in its Sunday schools from non-Lutheran homes; and

WHEREAS, Our national birth rate is on the increase; and

WHEREAS, Our Sunday school enrollment has not kept pace with the national birth rate; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That special efforts be made annually to increase the enrollment of the Sunday school through departmental programs and goals, and that a parish committee on evangelism involve the Sunday school in its PTR mission program, its community canvass, and its service to the shut-ins; and be it further

*Resolved*, To recommend that an extension department and classes for mentally retarded children be considered.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **The Organizational Structure of the Sunday School**

#### **RESOLUTION 15, COMMITTEE 4**

##### **Memorial 201, page 247, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Many Sunday schools are weak in their pattern of organization, in that they have an inadequate number of departments, classes, and teachers; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That local boards of Christian education be urged to make a serious study of the organizational structure of their Sunday school, to organize for a total Sunday school serving all age levels, and to improve and expand their Sunday school by breaking up their groupings into more departments with more leaders and more classes.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Building Facilities for Christian Education****RESOLUTION 16, COMMITTEE 4****Memorial 201, page 248, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, There are many Sunday schools which are operating under serious space handicaps because congregations, when building, failed to provide adequate facilities for Christian education; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod urge all its churches that are planning a building program to build for Christian education as well as worship and therefore to make a preliminary study of the total parish program and future needs before instructing an architect to draw up building plans; and be it further

*Resolved*, That all congregations be urged to take a periodic inventory of space needs for parish education and to act to meet those needs by one means or another — conversion of facilities, renting, or building.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Trained Leadership and Certified Teachers in Our Sunday Schools****RESOLUTION 17, COMMITTEE 4****Memorial 201, page 249, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The majority of our Sunday school teachers, though dedicated people, have no professional training for the function of teaching God's Word; and

WHEREAS, The Synodical Leadership Training Committee has developed a program of twelve courses and has made provision for certification; and

WHEREAS, Sunday school associations, institutes, summer camps, and conventions offer additional opportunities for teachers to acquire the knowledge and skill they need for correct and effective teaching in Sunday school; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Synod exhort its congregations and District Boards of Education to make weekly or at least biweekly teachers' meetings the rule; that pastors be urged to give their Sunday school workers the benefit of at least one of the leadership-training courses per year; and that provision be made for additional training through associations, conferences, workshops, and conventions, the goal being a staff of certified teachers and trained leaders for every Sunday school.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

## Evaluation of the Sunday School

### RESOLUTION 18, COMMITTEE 4

Memorial 201, page 250, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The Sunday school needs good organization, administration, and supervision if it is to achieve the purpose for which it exists; and

WHEREAS, All aspects of the Sunday school must be measured and evaluated and remedial measures adopted, where necessary, in order to improve the Sunday school; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Parish Education has prepared a *Sunday School Standard* and a *Guide to the Sunday School Standard*; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That local boards of Christian education be urged to review annually the *Sunday School Standard* and the *Guide to the Standard* as an instrument for detecting weaknesses and working toward the goal of the best possible Sunday school.

Action: This resolution was *adopted*.

## Bible Study

### RESOLUTION 19, COMMITTEE 4

Memorial 201, page 252, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, God has bountifully blessed The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod with a constant increase in church membership; and

WHEREAS, Enrollment in the Bible classes has increased materially, but has not increased at the same rate as church membership; therefore be it

*Resolved*:

a) That the Synod re-emphasize to its congregations the central place which the Bible has in Lutheran theology and the importance of Bible study in parish life and work;

b) That local congregations and their boards of education be encouraged to expand the opportunities which they provide for Bible study by offering more Sunday morning classes, weekday classes, cottage-type classes, with more elective courses and short-term courses (institute plan);

c) That the Synod encourage each congregation to work for an increase in Bible class enrollment which equals or exceeds the rate of its communicant membership increase;

d) That our congregations give special attention to the quality of Bible class teaching during the next triennium and to that end —

1. use the *Bible Class Standard* as a self-study and guide toward such improvement;

2. provide opportunities to give teacher training and lesson help to the teachers of Bible classes on the high school, young people's, and adult levels.

e) That District Boards of Education be encouraged to provide adequate opportunities for the training of Bible class teachers in Sunday school associations, circuit or area workshops, and District Sunday school conventions;

f) That congregations be encouraged to set aside at least one Sunday each year to give special emphasis to Bible reading and group Bible study (e. g., Universal Bible Sunday).

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Engagement and Marriage

#### RESOLUTION 20, COMMITTEE 4

**Memorial 201, page 272, *Reports and Memorials***

**Unprinted Memorial 634, page 70, *Today's Business***

WHEREAS, The book *Engagement and Marriage* is part of a study on marriage and the family authorized by Synod at its Centennial Convention, and is the product of an extended study by the Family Life Committee; and

WHEREAS, The first draft was submitted to various pastoral conferences for study and criticism, carefully revised and rewritten by the editor and his associates, approved by the Board of Parish Education, and approved by the censor of the faculty of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis; and

WHEREAS, This work, as stated in the introduction and in the conclusions, has not been submitted as the official doctrine on engagement and marriage of our Synod; and

WHEREAS, None of the conclusions in the book have been shown to be contrary to the Scriptures or the Lutheran Confessions; and

WHEREAS, Such a work is needed to clarify our thinking and to unify our practice in the field of engagement and marriage; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the convention commend and thank the authors and the Family Life Committee for their painstaking work in the field of engagement and marriage; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we encourage the pastors, teachers, and laymen to study this book carefully; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the convention encourage the Family Life Com-

mittee to continue its research in the field of marriage and the family; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That Unprinted Memorial 634, *Today's Business*, page 70, be declined.

**Action:** After the words "with a view to clarifying and unifying our teaching and practice" had been deleted in the second resolve, this resolution was *adopted* as printed above.

### Family Life

#### RESOLUTION 21, COMMITTEE 4

##### Memorial 201, page 272, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, There are many forces at work which tend to undermine the Christian home, making it imperative that parents be guided and strengthened in the proper methods of bringing up their children; and

WHEREAS, The present trend toward marriage at an earlier age increases the necessity for counseling teen-age youth with regard to courtship and marriage; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod encourage every congregation to make specific provision for the guidance of parents through occasional courses in existing adult Bible classes, through special short-term parent courses, and through parent-teacher discussion groups; and be it further

*Resolved*, That our congregations be urged to give special attention to preparation for Christian marriage and be encouraged to utilize their youth meetings, parents' meetings, meetings of couples' groups, and other opportunities to give a Christian interpretation of marriage and family living and prepare the present generation of young people to establish solidly Christian homes; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the congregations of the Synod, especially parent groups within our congregations, be encouraged to exercise continuous vigilance regarding offensive literature and other forces threatening Christian marriage and Christian family living, and register judicious and vigorous protest — also in co-operation with other community groups — against the same; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the Family Life Committee be instructed, in consultation with the National Lutheran Parent-Teacher League, to give guidance on national and local levels.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.



**Children's Church Attendance****RESOLUTION 22, COMMITTEE 4****Memorial 201, page 283, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, We have God's command to teach children diligently; and

WHEREAS, The sermon should be one of the most important means of Christian education; and

WHEREAS, There is a pronounced lack of children in attendance at services in many of our churches; and

WHEREAS, Many congregations are now conducting church services and Sunday school simultaneously, thus not giving children the opportunity to attend church services or adults to attend Bible class; be it therefore

*Resolved*, That we take every possible opportunity to encourage the attendance of children in all church services; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we encourage the pastors of the Synod to take special care to make their sermons educationally effective; and be it further

*Resolved*, That pastors, together with their church boards, be encouraged to plan their Sunday programs in such a way that children as well as adults will have maximum opportunity to hear and to learn the Word of God both in church and Sunday school; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That congregations be encouraged to use the church attendance materials available from the American Lutheran Publicity Bureau, or other similar materials, to conduct church attendance crusades.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Frequency of Church Services****RESOLUTION 23, COMMITTEE 4****Memorial 201, page 283, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, There has been a marked decrease in the number of worship services in Protestant churches generally; and

WHEREAS, Many of our own synodical churches do not conduct midweek Advent services, nor services on other special days, such as on the day of the ascension of our Lord and on the Epiphany of our Lord; and

WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of the churches to provide frequent opportunities for worship, for attendance at Holy Communion, and for Christian education through the church service; and

WHEREAS, Our people have an increased amount of leisure time, thus giving them more opportunity to attend church; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we encourage the congregations of the Synod to make greater use of the Christian church year by conducting a larger number of services, thereby providing greater opportunities for worship and education in the Word of God.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### A Planned Parish Program

#### RESOLUTION 24, COMMITTEE 4

##### Memorial 201, page 273, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, Every congregation should continually evaluate its understanding of its own function in the world and its program of mutual growth and witness to the world; and

WHEREAS, Every congregation should work to equip each member for his proper place in this common task; and

WHEREAS, Many congregations have found synodically produced program-planning materials helpful; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That every congregation, through an over-all planning council composed of representatives of its constituent boards, agencies, and groups, evaluate its particular capabilities, opportunities, and tasks; and be it further

*Resolved*, That through this same planning council it plan, organize, and implement a unified parish program of education and action which will commit the members of the parish to valid tasks; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That on the synodical level the leaders of our church continue to provide for co-ordination of program at the planning stage —

1. through a general planning council, including the program-producing synodical executives and the leaders from our national organizations (LLL, WL, LWML);

2. through the annual publication of *Parish Activities*.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**New Editor of Weekday Materials****RESOLUTION 25, COMMITTEE 4****Memorial 201, page 282, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, At the present time no synodical board is furnishing adequate courses of study for Saturday schools and released-time classes; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Parish Education has received repeated requests for such materials; and

WHEREAS, Our present editors do not have the time to prepare such materials; and

WHEREAS, Weekday schools and classes are valuable agencies for the Christian instruction of the young; and

WHEREAS, The sale of materials of this kind usually defrays the cost of production; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod authorize the appointment of a full-time editor of weekday materials suitable for use in Saturday schools and released-time classes and that this editor be added to the staff of the Board of Parish Education.

**Action:** This resolution was *lost*.

**Director of Christian Education****RESOLUTION 26, COMMITTEE 4****Memorial 201, page 283, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The development of an organized and systematic program of Christian education is a necessity in every congregation; and

WHEREAS, Many congregations would benefit from the services of a director of Christian education who would assist the pastor in providing professional leadership for the Sunday school, Saturday classes, and other educational activities of the congregation; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That congregations be encouraged to analyze their parish education program and, where needed, to establish the office of "director of Christian education" in order to provide additional leadership for the educational program of the congregation.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**COMMITTEE 5—Young People's Work****Congregational Youth Committees****RESOLUTION 1, COMMITTEE 5****Memorial 302, page 320, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, Synod has established by resolution the importance of youth committees; and

WHEREAS, Statistics show that most congregations of the Synod have not as yet taken this important step; and

WHEREAS, Youth work is a responsibility of the congregation that must be faced by adults and youth alike; and

WHEREAS, Youth population will expand greatly during the next decades; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod through its District Presidents, Circuit Counselors, and District Youth Committees remind every congregation of its responsibilities toward all of its youth; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Synod encourage every congregation to establish the responsibility for youth work in congregational youth committees; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the Synod encourage the use of materials prepared for congregational youth committees by the Walther League and the Board for Young People's Work.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**New Dimensions on Youth Work****RESOLUTION 2, COMMITTEE 5****Memorial 302, page 320, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, The young people of the church are preparing themselves for expanding opportunities of service to the Lord and to the church because of the increase of the youth population and the growing recognition of the role of the youth in the life of the congregation; and

WHEREAS, The youth of the church has demonstrated its sincerity in this desire to take advantage of the opportunity for expanding service through a program of youth evangelism and through the program of gathering a fund of \$225,000 for a more effective youth program; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Synod suggest to its Districts to give thanks to God in the worship services of their conventions for the devotion and growth of the youth of the church; and be it further

*Resolved*, That Synod commend the young people of the Wal-

ther League for their willingness to gather funds for their own program; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That Synod encourage every congregation to support and encourage young people as they seek New Dimensions in faith and life through their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Financial Support of Youth Work**

#### **RESOLUTION 3, COMMITTEE 5**

##### **Memorial 302, page 321, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, An adequate program for the youth of our church demands both the interest and the financial support of our congregations on the local level; and

WHEREAS, Young people welcome and desire the concrete evidence of adult support, through supplemental allocations of funds from congregations; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod encourage its congregations to make the youth program a part of the budget of the congregation, or to gather an annual offering, preferably on a Sunday when youth work is emphasized, and to make adequate allocations for leadership training program materials and library resources, such funds to be administered by the local society and the congregational youth committee; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the Synod encourage its Districts to budget adequate funds annually for the District Youth Committee's work in assisting congregations to serve their youth.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Youth Work Among Seniors and Older Youth**

#### **RESOLUTION 4, COMMITTEE 5**

##### **Memorial 302, page 321, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Board for Young People's Work and the Walther League seek to serve all the youth of the church in the home parish; and

WHEREAS, There is a growing number of young people of Senior Walther League age (post-high school); and

WHEREAS, A good congregational youth program often depends on an exchange between the maturity and experience of older youth and the enthusiasm of the younger teen-agers; and

WHEREAS, Many older young people have not found their way into the pattern of parish life; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod encourage the Board for Young People's Work and the Walther League in their emphasis on work among senior youth; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Synod encourage the Board for Young People's Work and the Walther League to study the need for program materials among the unmarried young adult groups of the congregations of our church.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Lay Counselor Training Materials**

#### **RESOLUTION 5, COMMITTEE 5**

##### **Memorial 302, page 322, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The key to successful youth work in the local congregation is a trained team leadership of youth and adult counselors; and

WHEREAS, Many congregations of the Synod are even now turning over youth group guidance to adult counselors; and

WHEREAS, The Walther League and the Board for Young People's Work have made formidable strides forward in developing lay counselor materials; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod encourage congregations to develop lay counselors for their youth work under the guidance of their pastors and their youth committees; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the congregations be encouraged to take advantage of the training program (such as district and regional youth workshops, youth workers' conferences, etc.) and training materials produced by the Walther League and the Board for Young People's Work, for the purpose of developing well-qualified and well-trained lay counselors.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Lutheran Youth Research**

#### **RESOLUTION 6, COMMITTEE 5**

##### **Memorial 302, page 322, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, It is desirable for the congregation to know and to understand the young people in its midst as it develops a Christian Growth program for them; and

WHEREAS, The Board for Young People's Work and the Walther League have aided in the development of a Lutheran Youth

Inventory, prepared by the Lutheran Youth Research organization (to be available in 1960); and

WHEREAS, This inventory will be an aid to the youth of the church, the adult leaders of the youth in the congregation, and to the pastor and the congregation's youth committee; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the congregations of the Synod be encouraged to use this Lutheran Youth Inventory in the development and improvement of their congregational youth program.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

### Youth Work at Synodical Schools

#### RESOLUTION 7, COMMITTEE 5

Memorial 302, pages 322—323, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, Youth work is often a major responsibility of every full-time church worker; and

WHEREAS, Attitudes and understanding of a parish youth program can be established early in the training of a full-time church worker; and

WHEREAS, It is desirable for full-time church workers to participate in a well-planned youth program while attending synodical schools; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Board for Higher Education encourage the students attending our preparatory schools to be active in the Walther League societies; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Synod encourage the Board for Young People's Work, the Board for Higher Education, and the Walther League to develop, as soon as possible, an adequate program of experience and training for Christian youth activities at our synodical schools as was approved by the Synod in its 43rd regular convention in St. Paul, Minn., in 1956.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

### Youth Work in Mission Fields Overseas

#### RESOLUTION 8, COMMITTEE 5

Memorial 302, page 323, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, There is a growing awareness of the importance of the church's outreach to young people in mission fields overseas; and

WHEREAS, Many missionaries report that much of their mission activity is youth work activity; and

WHEREAS, Many missionaries are interested in developing and expanding this outreach of the church to youth overseas; and

WHEREAS, The youth of the church has through the Walther League consistently evidenced interest in mission work at home and abroad; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod request the Board for Young People's Work and the Walther League, and the respective mission boards of the church, to develop a program for training missionaries for youth work in our mission fields overseas; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Synod request the mission boards, in consultation with the Board for Young People's Work and the Walther League, to recruit qualified leaders of youth to serve as trained workers among the youth in our mission fields overseas under the supervision of the respective board; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the Synod ask the Fiscal Conference to provide adequate support for this program of helping youth in our mission fields.

**Action:** After the second resolve had been reworded, the resolution was *adopted* as printed above.

### Transmission

#### RESOLUTION 9, COMMITTEE 5

##### Special Resolution

WHEREAS, The Synod has approved the Circuit Cabinet Plan for transmission of District and synodical information and programs; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Circuit Counselors appoint a youth representative on their cabinet; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the District Presidents encourage their Circuit Counselors to make use of such cabinet members in promoting and strengthening the youth program of the church; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the District Youth Committee arrange for orientation of circuit cabinet youth men in the respective Districts.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.



**Practical Opportunity for Youth Service****RESOLUTION 10, COMMITTEE 5****Special Resolution**

WHEREAS, Evangelism is an important task of the church; and

WHEREAS, We need to train our youth in Christian witnessing; and

WHEREAS, Our Synod has enthusiastically promoted Preaching-Teaching-Reaching missions, every-member visits, and other such opportunities to witness for Christ; and

WHEREAS, Our synodical boards and committees have provided excellent materials and programs for carrying on the great task of Christian witnessing; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod encourage the congregations to include the youth of the church in the visitations, canvasses, and other such projects of their congregations.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Commendation****RESOLUTION 11, COMMITTEE 5****Special Resolution**

WHEREAS, The Board for Young People's Work and the Walther League have worked in close and harmonious co-operation; and

WHEREAS, The Board for Young People's Work and the Walther League have provided excellent materials and programs for general leadership training and local society activity; and

WHEREAS, Better stewardship, greater service, and closer fellowship will surely result from the splendid work of the Board for Young People's Work and the Walther League, and the Synod will be greatly blessed as in the past by the interest and activity of the young people of the church; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod commend the Board for Young People's work and the Walther League for their fine contribution to the life of the church; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Synod encourage every District Youth Committee and youth leader to continue this important work; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the Synod in convention at San Francisco send official greetings to the convention of the International Walther League, which will be in session July 12 to July 16 at East Lansing, Mich.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**COMMITTEE 6 — Constitutional Matters**

Memorial 120, page 169, *Reports and Memorials*

**RESOLUTION 1, COMMITTEE 6** (Provision for the Election of the Fort Wayne Board of Control), was referred back to the Committee and was later reported out as Resolution 34

**Disposition of the Files of Closed Cases  
by the Board of Appeals**

**RESOLUTION 2, COMMITTEE 6**

Memorial 901, page 663, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The Board of Appeals and the Committee on Constitutional Matters have consulted together as requested in Resolution 35 of the 1956 convention with reference to the disposition of the files of closed cases; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That section 5.175 of the synodical *Handbook* be amended to read as follows:

**5.175 Decision of Board**

- a. The decision of the Board shall be written and shall state:
  1. the facts of the case, as found by the Board from the evidence; and
  2. the conclusions of the Board and the reasons therefor. It shall not be necessary to print the same in full in the official report of the District or Synod unless the particular convention shall so direct.
- b. All files of cases in which an opinion has been rendered by the Synodical Board of Appeals shall be preserved in a locked file in the Synodical Office Building. Any such closed files shall be made available to others than the Synodical Board of Appeals then in office only upon application to said Board of Appeals and for good cause shown.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted as amended*, the amendment striking the words "administrative offices of the" from paragraph b.

**Regarding Official Visits to Congregations**

**RESOLUTION 3, COMMITTEE 6**

Memorial 507, page 459, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, Memorial 507, page 459, inquires whether Sections 3.43 and 3.65 of the Synodical *Handbook* concerning visits to congregations by the District President or the Circuit Counselor violate the principle of congregational autonomy; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Synod reaffirm its position that signatory congregations of Synod do not surrender their autonomy because these sections of the Synodical *Handbook* specifically state that such visits are to be arranged "through the proper channels."

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Limiting Tenure of Presidency**

#### **RESOLUTION 4, COMMITTEE 6**

##### **Memorial 508, page 460, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Memorial 508, page 460, requests Synod to limit the term of the synodical Presidency to three terms; and

WHEREAS, The experience of cumulative terms may be extremely salutary; and

WHEREAS, The same memorial requests Synod to make provision for the future of any pastors who have resigned their pastorate to serve Synod as President or Vice-President after the permitted number of terms has been served; and

WHEREAS, Sections 2.31 b and 2.37 b of the synodical *Handbook* adequately provide for such situations; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Memorial 508 be declined.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **District Treasurer to Be Elected or Appointed**

#### **RESOLUTION 5-A, COMMITTEE 6**

##### **Memorial 510, page 462, *Reports and Memorials***

##### **Memorial 511, page 462, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Both Memorials 510 and 511, page 462, request that Districts be given the right to elect or appoint District Treasurers; and

WHEREAS, The statutes of some states require *appointment* of the District Treasurer by the Board of Trustees; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Section 3.27 of the synodical *Handbook* be amended to read as follows:

##### **3.27 Secretary**

"Every District of Synod shall elect a Secretary"; and be it further

*Resolved*, That a new section be inserted, numbered 3.28 to read as follows:

"3.28 Every District shall elect a Treasurer or provide for the appointment of a Treasurer."

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted* by a unanimous vote.

**Amending Article XII of Synod's Constitution  
to Permit Appointment of District Treasurer**

**RESOLUTION 5-B, COMMITTEE 6**

**Memorial 510, page 462, *Reports and Memorials***

**Memorial 511, page 462, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The adoption of these amendments requires an amendment of Article XII, 3, e, of the Constitution; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Article XII, 3, e, of the Constitution of Synod be amended to read as follows: "e. A District Treasurer, who may be elected by the District convention or appointed in such manner as the District may prescribe."

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted* by a unanimous vote.

**No Full-Time Positions to Be Created  
by 1959 Convention**

**RESOLUTION 6, COMMITTEE 6**

**Memorial 1016, page 711, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Memorial 1016, page 711, proposes

1) That no new full-time positions be created by the 1959 convention of Synod; and

2) That the Board of Directors of Synod be authorized to abolish positions as appear dispensable and to replace pastors with laymen wherever possible; and

WHEREAS, The adoption of these proposals would be inconsistent with good administrative practice; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this memorial be declined.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Changing Name of "Circuit Visitor"**

**RESOLUTION 7, COMMITTEE 6**

**Memorials 521 and 522, page 471, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, A possible change of the title "Visitor" has been under consideration from time to time in Synod; and

WHEREAS, The responsibilities and activities of a "Visitor" have been so extended over a period of years that the title "Visitor" is no longer descriptive of the responsibilities and activities of a Visitor; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the title "Visitor" be changed to "Circuit Counselor" and that the necessary changes be made in the synodical *Handbook*.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Changing Name of Synod****RESOLUTION 8, COMMITTEE 6****Memorial 520, page 470, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Memorial 520, page 470, proposes that Synod's name be changed to "The International Lutheran Church"; and

WHEREAS, The present name of Synod was adopted only recently at the 1947 convention of Synod; and

WHEREAS, This recently adopted name has now become well known and no reason sufficiently persuasive has been advanced to warrant a change of name; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this memorial be declined.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

**No Member of Boards to Enter Business Contracts  
Relating to Board Business****RESOLUTION 9, COMMITTEE 6****Memorial 519, page 470, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Memorial 519, page 470, proposes that no member (official or advisory) of any synodical or District board or committee enter into any business contracts with such board or committee; and

WHEREAS, Such contracts generally benefit, and only on rare occasions harm, the boards or committees; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this memorial be declined.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

**Increasing Number of Lay Delegates to Convention  
and Serving on Committees****RESOLUTION 10, COMMITTEE 6****Memorial 518, page 469, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Memorial 518, page 469, proposes that the number of lay delegates to Synod's conventions be doubled and that the number of lay members of various committees be increased; and

WHEREAS, Synod has, since its organization, followed the fundamental principle of equal representation of pastors and laymen at synodical conventions; and

WHEREAS, This principle has been generally followed in making appointments to the various convention committees; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this memorial be declined.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

**RESOLUTION 11, COMMITTEE 6 (Clarifying or Changing Procedure with Reference to Place of Ordination of Candidates),** was referred back to the Committee and replaced by Resolution 25.

**No Full-Time Executive Receiving Salary Eligible  
as a Voting Member of Any Synodical Board**

**RESOLUTION 12, COMMITTEE 6**

**Unprinted Memorial 529, page 52, *Today's Business***

WHEREAS, This memorial proposes that no full-time executive who receives his salary either from Synod or from an intrasynodical organization shall be eligible as a voting member of any synodical board or commission which receives its appropriation from the synodical budget; and

WHEREAS, Any such general regulation would deprive Synod of the use of the talents of many able persons who have special abilities in particular areas of synodical activity; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Unprinted Memorial 529 be declined.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Increasing the per-Communicant Assessment to Help  
Defray the Cost of Triennial Conventions**

**RESOLUTION 13, COMMITTEE 6**

**Unprinted Memorial 531**

WHEREAS, This memorial proposes that the present levy of ½ cent per communicant member now charged all congregations (except the host congregations) for the synodical convention be increased; and

WHEREAS, The cost of the synodical conventions has materially increased since the present assessment was established; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Section 1.75 of the By-laws be amended to read as follows:

**"1.75 Expenses**

"b. Synod's part of the expenses shall be raised by a levy of one cent (1 cent) per communicant member, each District to decide how it will raise its proportionate share. The District Treasurer shall remit the share of his District to the Treasurer of the Committee on Arrangements not later than the month of March before the Convention."

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Proposed Change in By-Laws of Synod re Election  
of Synod's Vice-President in the Case of Vacancies**

**RESOLUTION 14, COMMITTEE 6**

**Memorial 509-B, page 461, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The present provision of Section 2.38 of the *Handbook* stipulates that a vacancy among the Vice-Presidents shall be filled by appointing from the reserve list the candidate who received the highest number of votes at a previous convention of Synod; and

WHEREAS, The College of Presidents has recommended a change which more adequately provides for this situation; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That paragraph 2.38 of the *Handbook* be amended to read:

**"2.38 Vacancies**

"A vacancy in any vice-presidency shall be filled by advancing the lower-ranking Vice-Presidents. The remaining vacancy shall then be filled in the following manner:

"a. The congregations of Synod shall be requested by the President of Synod, through the official organs of Synod, to nominate candidates.

"b. The nominations shall be published in the official organs of Synod.

"c. After at least three weeks of such publications, the District Presidents and a lay delegate from each District appointed by the District Board of Directors shall elect a Vice-President at a meeting of the College of Presidents."

**Action**

After the amendment had carried to strike the words "at a meeting of the College of Presidents" in the last line of paragraph "c.," the resolution was *lost*.

**Appointing Instead of Electing the Treasurer  
of Synod**

**RESOLUTION 15, COMMITTEE 6**

**Memorial 501, page 409, paragraph "D," *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, This recommendation proposes the appointment of the synodical Treasurer rather than election by Synod; and

WHEREAS, It would appear unwise for the Board of Directors, which is an elective Board, to appoint a Treasurer who would become a voting member of the Board; and

WHEREAS, The convention is well able to elect a Treasurer, as it is well informed as to the ability of candidates, and election preserves the democratic principle; and

WHEREAS, A change in this report would require the amendment of the Articles of Incorporation; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this resolution be declined.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Frequency of Conventions** **RESOLUTION 16, COMMITTEE 6**

#### **Memorial 502, page 434, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The growth of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, the scope and complexity of its expanding activities, and the urgency of efficient synodical administration make it desirable to have more frequent synodical conventions; and

WHEREAS, More frequent conventions of shorter duration will give opportunities and make it possible for a greater number of laymen to attend; and

WHEREAS, Biennial conventions will make possible a greater exercise of the democratic principle on which Synod is founded; and

WHEREAS, The Articles of Incorporation permit synodical meetings as often as Synod may determine; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That after the triennial convention in the year 1962 the conventions of Synod be held biennially; and be it further

*Resolved*, That Article VIII, Section A, paragraph 1 of Synod's Constitution be amended to read:

"Synod convenes every two years for its regular meetings."

#### **Action**

After this resolution had been amended by inserting the words "Resolved, that after the triennial convention in the year 1962 the conventions of Synod be held biennially," the resolution was *recommitted* and was reported out by Committee 6 as Resolution 22.

### **Concordia Historical Institute** **RESOLUTION 17, COMMITTEE 6**

#### **Memorial 1004, page 687, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Nothing as yet appears in the synodical *Handbook* relative to the Concordia Historical Institute; and

WHEREAS, This agency is an important arm in the preservation of the records and historical data of Synod; therefore be it



*Resolved*, That Synod approve the report as found on pages 681—687 of *Reports and Memorials*; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the entire matter concerning the Concordia Historical Institute be referred to the standing Committee on Constitutional Matters for inclusion in the *Handbook*.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Permission to Authorize Formation of New District in Northern Minnesota**

#### **RESOLUTION 18, COMMITTEE 6**

**Memorial 523, page 472, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, This memorial requires authority to form a new District in northern Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, The area of the proposed new District would result in an inequitable division of the Minnesota District; and

WHEREAS, The request for the formation of a District should, as a rule, come from the District; and

WHEREAS, The most recent vote taken within the area itself indicates no overwhelming demand for a division; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Memorial 523 be declined.

#### **Action**

This resolution was *lost*. Committee 6 was instructed by the chairman to submit another resolution concerning this matter.

### **Membership of the Board of Parish Education**

#### **RESOLUTION 19, COMMITTEE 6**

**Memorial 201, page 282, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Floor Committee 4 on Parish Education has recommended approval of Recommendation 20 of the Board of Parish Education, page 282; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That paragraph 7.23 of the synodical *Handbook* be amended to read:

#### **"7.23 Membership**

"The Board of Parish Education shall consist of thirteen members. Nine members — three pastors, three teachers, and three laymen — shall be elected by Synod; a representative from each of the theological seminaries and teachers colleges shall be appointed by the President of Synod upon the advice of the Board of Parish Education;" and be it further

*Resolved*, That an additional paragraph be included in Section 7.25 to read as follows:

"j. conduct invitational meetings as needed with members of the departments of education of our colleges and seminaries on basic problems of Christian education."

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Change in the Name of the Board for Parish Education**

#### **RESOLUTION 20, COMMITTEE 6**

##### **Memorial 201, page 283, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Idiomatic English calls for use of the word "of" in designating the name of a board and it is recommended that Synod change the name "Board for Parish Education" to "Board of Parish Education"; and

WHEREAS, Floor Committee 4 has recommended approval of this change; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the necessary changes of this title be made in the revision of the synodical *Handbook*.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

#### **RESOLUTION 21, COMMITTEE 6 was withdrawn by Committee 6**

### **Frequency of Conventions**

#### **RESOLUTION 22, COMMITTEE 6 (Recommitted Resolution 16)**

##### **Memorial 502, page 434, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The growth of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, the scope and complexity of its expanding activities, and the urgency of efficient synodical administration make it desirable to have more frequent synodical conventions; and

WHEREAS, Biennial conventions will give opportunity for congregations to express themselves more frequently through their delegates in the formation of policy and the adoption of programs of Synod; and

WHEREAS, Triennial conventions make it increasingly necessary to delegate to synodical agencies matters which should properly be decided by Synod; and

WHEREAS, The Articles of Incorporation of Synod permit synodical meetings as often as Synod may determine; and

WHEREAS, Article XII, B, 13 of the Constitution of Synod provides that regular sessions of the District are held in those years

in which no regular session of Synod is held, but permits Synod to make exceptions to this rule; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That after the triennial convention in the year 1962 conventions of Synod be held biennially; and be it further

*Resolved*, That Article VIII, Section A, paragraph 1 of Synod's Constitution be amended to read:

"Synod convenes every two years for its regular meeting"; and be it further

*Resolved*, That any District which feels it necessary to hold conventions more frequently than one in every two years apply to the 1962 or any subsequent convention of Synod for permission to do so in accordance with Article XII, B, 13 of the Constitution of Synod.

#### **Action**

This resolution was declared adopted on Friday, June 19. However, before the session closed, the question was raised whether this resolution had received the two-thirds majority vote required for adoption because a change in Synod's Constitution was involved.

It was later ascertained (Saturday, June 20) that no count had been taken to determine whether the two-thirds vote required for adoption had been obtained. Consequently a standing vote was taken, which resulted in the adoption of the resolution by the necessary two-thirds majority vote. The rising vote showed that 350 voted for the resolution and 171 against it. A total of 348 votes was needed to carry the resolution.

Subsequently it was agreed that a ballot vote should be taken. This vote resulted in 385 votes for the resolution and 266 votes opposed to the resolution. Since the required two thirds was 434, the resolution was *lost*.

(On the first day, Friday, June 19, a total of 521 voting delegates voted, requiring a two-thirds majority of 348; on the second day, Saturday, June 20, a total of 651 delegates cast their ballots. This accounts for the difference in the number of votes needed to make up the two-thirds majority on the respective days.)

### **Restatement of Duties of Literature Board and "Censorship" Responsibilities of Saint Louis Faculty**

#### **RESOLUTION 23, COMMITTEE 6**

##### **Memorial 512, page 463**

WHEREAS, This Memorial is a request by the faculty of Concordia Seminary of St. Louis for a Restatement of Duties of the Literature Board of the Synod and the censorship responsibilities of the St. Louis Faculty; and

WHEREAS, Various other boards and agencies of the Synod are also subject to the censorship of materials by the St. Louis faculty; and

WHEREAS, It is desirable that any restatement should be uniform respecting all such boards and agencies; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Memorial 512 be referred back to the Saint Louis faculty with instructions to restudy the same with a view to uniformity, and to confer with regard to the same with all boards and agencies that publish materials.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**"Handbook" Additions**  
**The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation**  
**RESOLUTION 24, COMMITTEE 6**

**Memorial 821, page 651, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, This memorial is a proposal by the Board of Directors to add to the Bylaws of the Synod and to insert in the *Handbook* the following sections with reference to funds of the newly organized subsidiary corporation of the Synod, known as The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation; therefore be it

*Resolved*:

1. That the following section be added to the *Handbook* under the general title "II. Synodical Administration, E. The Treasurer of Synod":

"Nothing herein contained shall apply to the office of the treasurer of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation, a subsidiary corporation of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, nor to the funds, devises, bequests, legacies, endowments, foundations, annuity gifts, investments, and trust funds of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation."

2. That the following sections be added to the *Handbook* under the general title "IX. Finances, C. Board of Trustees of Synod's Trust Funds":

"Nothing herein contained shall apply to the funds devises, bequests, legacies, endowments, foundations, annuity gifts, investments, and trust funds of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation, a subsidiary corporation of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod."

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Clarifying or Changing Procedure with Reference to Place of Ordination of Candidates

#### RESOLUTION 25, COMMITTEE 6

##### Memorial 514, page 464, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, Memorial 514, page 464, calls attention to the lack of uniformity in practice in the ordination of candidates; and

WHEREAS, Article XII, 9c of the Constitution states that "the District Presidents shall perform, either in person or by proxy, the ecclesiastical ordination of the candidates for the ministry assigned to their District . . ."; and

WHEREAS, It is desirable that pertinent sections of the synodical *Handbook* be clarified; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Section 4.19 be amended to read as follows:

##### "4.19 Place and Manner

"a. The ordination of a candidate shall, as a rule, for the sake of good order in the church take place in the presence of the congregation to which he has been called. However, the President of the District in which the calling congregation is located may permit the ordination to take place in the home congregation of the candidate and accordingly, with the permission of the calling congregation, authorize the ordination of the candidate in his home congregation. The President of the District in which the calling congregation is located shall issue a diploma of ordination.

"b. The installation of candidates or pastors shall always take place in the presence of the congregation to which they have been called.

"c. Candidates and pastors shall be ordained and installed in accordance with the accepted Lutheran forms for that purpose and shall be solemnly pledged to the Scriptures as the inspired and inerrant Word of God and the Symbolical Books of the Lutheran Church as a true exposition of the Scriptures."

##### Action

This resolution was *adopted* after the words: "for the sake of good order in the church" had been inserted in paragraph "a" by the Committee.

### Change of Synodical Election Procedures

#### RESOLUTION 26, COMMITTEE 6

##### Memorial 506, page 452, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The 1956 convention of the Synod directed that a special committee be appointed to study the election procedures of the Synod and report its findings to this convention; and

WHEREAS, The special committee has submitted its findings together with full explanations thereof in Memorial 506, page 452; and

WHEREAS, The recommendations of the special committee have been carefully examined and considered by this committee, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the pertinent sections of the *Handbook* be amended to read as follows:

### **2.03 Elective Boards**

The elective boards shall be . . . (same as heretofore, with the addition of) A Committee on Nominations.

#### **2.121 Committee on Election**

a. A Committee on Elections shall be appointed by the President prior to the convention of the Synod, and the Secretary of the Synod shall provide it with copies of a manual of suggested election procedures. The committee shall make. . .

#### **2.123 Order of Elections of Executive Officers**

First the President and then the Vice-Presidents shall be elected in the manner hereinafter prescribed. Thereafter a ballot shall be submitted listing the candidates for Secretary, Treasurer, and elective members of the Board of Directors, and their elections shall thereafter be conducted as hereinafter prescribed.

#### **2.137 Election and Ranking of Vice-Presidents**

The ballot for the election of Vice-Presidents shall contain three times as many names as there are Vice-Presidents to be elected. If on the nominating ballot any candidate receives 75 per cent or more of all votes cast, the rules governing elections shall be suspended, such candidate shall be declared elected, and his name shall not reappear on subsequent ballots other than the final ballot, which determines the rank of the respective Vice-Presidents-elect. With this exception the names of those candidates who have received the greatest number. . .

#### **2.138 Other Elections**

Subsequent to the completion of the elections mentioned above, and in a special period of a convention session determined and announced in advance by the President and to be devoted exclusively to this purpose, a ballot listing the candidates for membership on all other elective boards, commissions, and committees other than boards of control shall be distributed, and the election for these offices shall proceed.

**2.139 Election of Committee on Nominations**

a. At each convention of the Synod 15 persons — seven pastors, three teachers, and five laymen — shall be elected to serve as members of the Committee on Nominations for the next convention, same to be chosen from a list of candidates representative of the various geographical areas of the Synod, submitted by the current Committee on Nominations and augmented by additional candidates, if any, nominated from the floor of the convention.

b. Should a vacancy occur on the Committee on Nominations, it shall be filled by appointment from the list of nonelected nominees in the order of the highest number of votes received.

**2.141 Publication of Committee on Nominations**

The names of the members of the Committee on Nominations shall be published in the *Lutheran Witness* and *Der Lutheraner* eight months before each convention of the Synod, and all members and congregations of the Synod shall be invited to suggest to the committee the names of suitable candidates for the various offices, with reasons for such suggestions. The suggestions and information shall be transmitted to the committee at least six months prior to the convention.

**2.143 Duties of Committee on Nominations**

a. The Committee on Nominations shall nominate candidates for all elective offices, boards, commissions, and committees, except those of the President and Vice-Presidents.

b. The Committee on Nominations shall inform itself as to the duties and requirements of each position to be filled and be thereby guided in its selection of nominees.

**2.145 District Presidents to Suggest Candidates**

At least six months prior to the convention each District President shall compile. . . .

**2.151 Report of Committee on Nominations**

a. The Committee on Nominations shall meet at the call of the President of the Synod and name its chairman and secretary. At least three (3) months prior to the convention it shall determine its complete list of candidates and alternates, obtain the consent of the persons it proposes to nominate, and transmit its final report to the Secretary of the Synod, in ample time to provide for its publication in a pre-convention issue of both the *Lutheran Witness* and *Der Lutheraner* and also in the official Synod convention book of *Reports and Memorials*. Such report shall include pertinent information concerning each candidate, such as age, occupation, or

profession, District affiliation, residence, and specific experience and qualifications for the office in question.

b. The chairman of the Committee on Nominations shall submit the committee's report in person to the convention at one of the earliest sessions thereof, and immediately thereupon additional nominations may be made on the floor of the convention. No further nominations shall thereafter be accepted.

c. The chairman of the Committee on Nominations shall have on hand at the convention a reserve list of nominees, approved by his committee, for use if required, e. g., if a new board or committee is to be elected. Wherever possible, however, the Committee on Nominations should be alerted in advance if any new board or committee is likely to be elected at a synodical convention, so that it may have a slate of candidates in readiness.

#### 2.153 Order of Names on Ballot

The names and District affiliations of the candidates in all elections—at least two for each position—shall be placed on the election ballot in alphabetical order and without any distinctive mark.

#### 6.21 Election of Boards of Control

a. A Board of Control for each of the Synod's educational institutions, elected in a manner hereinafter prescribed in these Bylaws, shall provide effective local administrative organization, to facilitate the achievement of the purposes for which the respective institution is maintained, and to safeguard the financial, academic, and religious interests of the Synod in such institutions.

b. (Remains unchanged).

c. Elective members of the respective Boards of Control shall be selected in the following manner:

1. They shall be nominated in the same manner as are members of other elective boards, commissions, and committees and in accordance with Section 2.147 and other pertinent sections of these Bylaws.

2. From the official list of nominees submitted by the Committee on Nominations the required number of members for each Board of Control shall be elected at the convention of the Synod by a body known as the Electoral College, which shall consist of a pastor delegate and a lay delegate to be designated by each District.

3. To conduct and conclude the election aforementioned, the Electoral College shall hold an evening meeting during the con-



vention period at a convenient time and place designated and announced in advance by the President of the Synod.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted* as printed above after Section 2.07 had been removed and referred to the permanent Committee on Constitutional Matters.

### Early Appointment of Committee on Convention Arrangements

#### RESOLUTION 27, COMMITTEE 6

Memorial 524, page 474, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, Memorial 524 requests that the Committee on Convention Arrangements be appointed as soon as possible after the convention site has been determined; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That section 1.73 in the synodical *Handbook* be amended in its last sentence to read as follows:

"1.73 This committee shall be appointed as soon as possible after the convention site has been established."

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Section E, Clarifying Sections of "Handbook" Relating to Appeals

#### RESOLUTION 28, COMMITTEE 6

Memorial 501, page 409, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The standing Committee on Constitutional Matters has called attention to the need for clarifying the sections of the *Handbook* in cases involving appeals where a District President is disqualified from acting; and

WHEREAS, The committee has recommended revision of sections 5.25, 5.53, 5.81, and 5.87 with this end in view; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That sections 5.25, 5.53, 5.81, and 5.87 of the *Handbook* be amended to read as follows:

5.25 "If the member involved does not plead guilty and the officials of the District who have acted in the case, including the District President, have exhausted all administrative efforts and are convinced that final action must be taken, the District President shall submit the case to the District Board of Appeals for adjudication. In doing so, he shall file with the Board of Appeals, in writing, the names of the parties involved, the charges against the accused member, all documentary evidence, and a memorandum of the administrative action which had been pursued. In any case where the District President is disqualified or unable

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to act, the First Vice-President, or the next qualified District officer, shall submit the case to the District Board of Appeals in the same manner."

5.53 "Whoever desires to appeal must first go to the Circuit Counselor, who shall endeavor to settle the case. If still dissatisfied, the appellant must go to the President of his District, who shall exhaust all administrative efforts to settle the case. If these efforts fail, the case shall be submitted to the District Board of Appeals, and the President shall so advise all parties. In any case where the District President is disqualified or unable to act, the case shall be handled by the First Vice-President or the next qualified District Officer."

5.81 Change the last sentence to read as follows: "In case the President of the Synod is charged with any action that would disqualify him for office, or in case he shall be disqualified or unable to act in a particular case, the Vice-President of the Synod, according to rank, shall undertake to settle the matter or, if administrative efforts have failed, refer the case to the Board of Appeals of the Synod."

5.87 "If the member involved does not plead guilty and the President (or in case of his disqualification or inability, a Vice-President) has exhausted all administrative efforts and is convinced that final action must be taken, he shall present the case to the Board of Appeals of the Synod. In doing so, he shall file with the Board of Appeals of the Synod, in writing, the names of the parties involved, the charges against the accused member, all documentary evidence, and a memorandum of the administrative action which has been pursued."

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

## Section F, Boards of Electors of South American Educational Institutions

### RESOLUTION 29, COMMITTEE 6

#### Memorial 501, page 410, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, In the case of South American educational institutions the chairman of the Board for Missions in North and South America, or his representative, has by resolution of the Synod been serving as one of the electors instead of the chairman of the Board for Higher Education; and

WHEREAS, The applicable section of the *Handbook* should be brought into conformity with this resolution; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That section 6.101 Electors — be amended to read as follows:

**6.101 Electors**

"a. Professors, associate professors, and the required administrative officers, for all positions officially created by the Synod for each of the Synod's educational institutions in North America shall be called by the respective Board of Control in accordance with the regulations of the Synod. At a meeting of the Board of Control held for the purpose of electing professors, associate professors, or such administrative officers, or for the purpose of considering final action relevant to the suspension or the removal from office of such professors, associate professors, or administrative officers, there shall be present and voting as electors: the Board of Control as a group, with one vote (the President of the synodical District not voting with his Board of Control); the President of the synodical District in which the institution is located or his official representative; the President of the Synod or his official representative; the chairman of the Board for Higher Education or his official representative. The president of the institution shall be present in an advisory capacity.

"b. In the case of the Synod's educational institutions in South America the same procedure set forth in the preceding paragraph shall be followed, except that the chairman of the Board for Missions in North and South America or his official representative shall be one of the electors in the place and stead of the chairman of the Board for Higher Education or his official representative."

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Staggering Election of District Officers****RESOLUTION 30, COMMITTEE 6****Memorial 509-A, page 460, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, The 1956 synodical convention referred to the College of Presidents for study and recommendation a memorial presented to that convention relative to the staggering of the election of officers in the Districts; and

WHEREAS, The College of Presidents has submitted its recommendations in Memorial 509-A; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Article XII, Section 5 of the Constitution of the Synod be amended to read:

"The election and time of service of the District officers shall be determined by the Bylaws of the Constitution of the Synod"; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the following paragraphs be added to the Bylaws of the Constitution of the Synod:

**"3.35 Election and Time of Service of District Officers**

"a. The District President, Vice-Presidents, Circuit Counselors, and the elective members of the Board of Directors shall be elected in the year following the regular sessions of the Synod;

"b. All other officers and boards may be elected in the second year following the regular session of the Synod for the time of service fixed by the Bylaws of the Constitution of the Synod."

**Action:** This resolution was adopted.

**Report: Survey Commission****RESOLUTION 31, COMMITTEE 6****Memorial 502, pages 411—437, *Reports and Memorials***

In the endless mercy of God, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod has become a great and growing church. It is a church richly blessed with a dedicated membership, with material resources, with unprecedented opportunities, and above all else, with the pure and precious Gospel. Her remarkable growth, particularly during the past two decades, has multiplied the problems and increased the difficulties of administration. Not that efficient administration is to be viewed as an end in itself. There is a present and persistent possibility of becoming so efficient as to be no longer effective. Organizational administration when properly understood is to *serve* the church — to serve in preserving her doctrine and practice and in promoting her continuing program of evangelizing a lost world.

An awareness of the need for improvement in synodical organization and administration was not a new or sudden development. On the contrary, the last three conventions of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod emphasized this need and urged remedial action. It was the 1956 convention, held in St. Paul, which addressed itself resolutely to the matter and by enabling resolution established a commission to survey the organizational structure, the administration, and the operational procedures of the Synod with a view toward improving the effectiveness, efficiency, and economy of the Synod as it seeks to fulfill its objectives. The Survey Commission undertook what the Synod assigned — a task of no small proportion! — and has produced much of manifest value under its mandate to study and propose improvements for a democratically conceived and democratically structured administrative organization. Based on extensive research, the Survey Commission's Report seeks to develop a philosophy and system of administration which, in a manner appropriate for the Missouri Synod, reflects the best of modern administrative principles and practices, while

at the same time upholding and safeguarding the democratic process. It should be recognized that sporadic drives at effectiveness and efficiency undertaken in an atmosphere of crisis are thoroughly unsound and undesirable, as wide experience amply demonstrates. Attention to effectiveness and efficiency should not just periodically be promoted at a high pitch of excitement and tension under the distorting influence of opinionated assertion. It should rather be built up slowly and patiently, to a sustained level of calm and methodical but confident thought and action throughout an organization. This requires two indispensable conditions: first, a good organizational structure which ties various parts of an organization together so that these parts are able to function, not as independent and isolated fragments but as co-operating co-ordinate parts of a whole; and second, good leadership in the organization, not singly by one man but jointly by many men, and not through the long-discredited process of command, but through the enlightened and only practical process of persuading men freely and by conviction to adopt and to practice the principles of good administration. The more dispersed and widely participative leadership becomes, the better. For true leadership is the art of inducing people to do what they should do, not because they must, but because they want to do it. True leadership knows nothing of autocratic command. It knows only the remarkable power of group action — of free, willing teamwork toward common ends. We believe this is the whole meaning and purpose of the organizational structure as set forth in the book of *Reports and Memorials*. The proposed organizational structure holds the Synod's boards and agencies responsible to the Synod itself for policy making, and it holds the Synod's authorized administrators responsible for planned and mutually shared execution of policy. The commission has recommended for immediate action those measures which it believes should be adopted by this convention, and offers a program for continued study and action on the more far-reaching needs of the Synod. In view of the vast scope of the commission's assignment and the limited time at its disposal, the commission is to be commended for launching this study on a sound basis on which present adoption may be made and future adjustments be implemented after further study.

We therefore offer to the honorable Synod the following resolutions: Be it

*Resolved*, That we commend the members of the Survey Commission and its able research director, Prof. Walter Gast, for their efforts in obedience to the directive of the 1956 convention of the Synod. Under divine grace and blessing they have rendered a dis-

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tinguished service and have produced a Survey Report which holds elements of more than immediate value; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Synod in convention assembled extend its gratitude to the Survey Commission for its manifold labors, its manifest concern for the welfare of the Synod, and for its thorough and scholarly work.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

In connection with the report of the Survey Commission (Memorial 502, pages 411 to 437), your committee offers the following resolutions:

**Group I—Basic Policy Decisions (page 417)**

*Resolved:*

1. That a policy of continuous attention to the Synod's organization and administrative methods and procedures be adopted;

2. That this policy be implemented by the continuation for the next triennium of a Survey Commission which shall consist of thirteen members, five members (three laymen, two pastors) to be appointed by the Board of Directors, and eight members (two pastors, one District President, three laymen, one teacher, and one professor from a synodical institution) to be appointed by the College of Presidents. The chairman of this commission shall be the First Vice-President of the Synod, without vote;

3. That this commission shall:

a. assume primary responsibility during the next triennium for the execution of resolutions as passed by this convention in connection with this report;

b. discharge this responsibility by means of a Joint Committee. The members of this committee shall be appointed by the President of the Synod and shall consist of three members of the Board of Directors, three members of the Survey Commission, three members of the College of Presidents, and the chairman of the Survey Commission, who shall be chairman of the committee without vote. This committee shall consider the time and method of executing and implementing the aforementioned resolutions. This committee shall, from time to time, report to the Board of Directors, to the Survey Commission, and to the College of Presidents;

c. engage professional and other assistance which the Survey Commission may require in the discharge of the duties assigned to it by this convention;

d. evaluate the effectiveness of the aforementioned resolutions and submit a complete report of the evaluation to the next convention of the Synod;

e. avail itself of all research data and reports prepared for the Survey Commission created by the Synod in 1956, devote further study to the comprehensive program of administrative development prepared by the 1956 Survey Commission, and recommend to the next convention of the Synod the adoption of any portion of this comprehensive program or modifications of it which it considers advisable;

f. carry out all resolutions for further study which are adopted by this convention;

4. That the Board of Directors of the Synod appropriate the funds necessary for the functioning of the Survey Commission during the next triennium.

**Action:** The resolutions in Group I were *adopted*.

***Group II — Specific Proposal Recommended  
for Immediate Action (pages 420 to 435)***

**Sections I and II, pages 420 to 424, Synodical Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Divisional Organization**

***Resolved:***

1. That all synodical agencies shall continue to perform the functions which the Synod has assigned to them. However, as far as possible those agencies which have the services of salaried administrative personnel shall devote themselves chiefly to the formulation of specific objectives, plans, and policies relative to their respective functions, to the periodic review and appraisal of performance in the attainment of objectives, to the execution of plans, and to the observance of policies. Such agencies will realize their best values by avoiding detailed attention to administrative problems and decisions and by entrusting these problems and decisions to their attached salaried personnel;

2. That the principle of divisional grouping of synodical agencies and the following divisional designations be adopted:

**A. The Operating Divisions**

- a. The Division of World Missions
- b. The Division of North American Missions
- c. The Division of Special Ministries
- d. The Division of Higher Education
- e. The Division of Communications and Public Relations

**B. The Service Divisions**

- a. The Division of Parish Education and Parish Services
- b. The Division of Social Action and Welfare
- c. The Division of Church Literature

- C. The Governmental Divisions
  - a. The Division of Church Government
  - b. The Division of Doctrine and Church Relations
- D. The Administrative Divisions
  - a. The Division of Staff Services
  - b. The Division of Finance
  - c. The Division of Controllershship

3. That the Joint Committee (referred to in Group I, Section I, Resolution 3b) shall assign the various synodical agencies to divisions, after consultation with the affected agencies during the next triennium. Such assignments of agencies may be changed from time to time under such procedural regulations as the Synod may adopt in subsequent conventions;

4. That all synodical agencies established in the future shall, as far as desirable and practicable, be assigned to divisions;

5. That agencies and boards within a division shall be encouraged to plan at least one joint meeting each year in order to co-ordinate policy development and broad planning within the divisions.

**Section III, pages 424 to 425, Changes in, and Additions to, Synodical Boards**

*Resolved:*

1. That the responsibility for Middle and South American missions and any other missions outside continental United States and Canada be transferred from the Board for Missions in North and South America to the Board for Missions in Foreign Countries;

2. That each transfer take place only after there has been adequate consultation between the boards involved. The Board for Missions in Foreign Countries shall undertake no major changes in policy or administrative procedure unless there has been adequate consultation with the administrative personnel in the Middle and South American fields;

3. That the title of the Board for Missions in Foreign Countries be changed to the "Board for World Missions" and that the title of the Board for Missions in North and South America be changed to the "Board for North American Missions";

4. That the size of the Board for World Missions be increased by three additional members to enable this board to accommodate its added responsibilities and that this increase shall be made when both the Board for North American Missions and the Board for World Missions report to the President of the Synod that the



transfer of responsibility for Middle and South American Missions has taken place, whereupon the President of the Synod is authorized to make the additional appointments;

5. That the administrative personnel of the Missionary Board of the Synodical Conference be attached to the Division of World Missions for consultative purposes in connection with its missions in foreign lands;

6. That a Stewardship Board be established by the Synod; that this board be elected by the Synod and consist of five members — two pastors, two laymen, and one teacher; that the specific functions of this board be developed by its members with the assistance of the Stewardship Secretary and the Executive Director; and that the functional and personnel plans of this board be submitted to the next convention of the Synod after approval by the Board of Directors of the Synod;

7. That the Department of Evangelism remain as a part of the work of the Board for North American Missions;

8. That the present Literature Board, Young People's Literature Board, and the Committee for the Development of Scholarly Research be merged into one Commission of Church Literature.

#### Section IV, pages 425 to 426, Divisional Chairmen

##### *Resolved:*

1. That a divisional chairman for each of the proposed eleven divisions be appointed. These divisional chairmen are to supply guidance and assistance to the agencies in their divisions in connection with the preparation of balanced and co-ordinated plans and budgets, and in the development of policy manuals, job specifications, and organizational arrangements. The divisional chairmen shall keep themselves informed on the activities of the agencies in their respective divisions. They shall represent the agencies in their divisions in the integrational plans, budgets, and policies of all divisions in a council of administrators (proposed in Section VI of this report);

2. That the following divisional chairmen be appointed at this time:

- a. Chairman Division of World Missions
- b. Chairman Division of North American Missions and Division of Special Ministries
- c. Chairman Division of Higher Education
- d. Chairman Division of Communications and Public Relations
- e. Chairman Division of Parish Education and Parish Services
- f. Chairman Division of Social Action and Welfare

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- g. Chairman Division of Church Literature
- h. Chairman Division of Finance (the Treasurer of the Synod, ex officio)
- i. Chairman Division of Controllershship (the Controller of the Synod, ex officio)
- j. Chairman Division of Staff Services

3. That, with the exception of those who would be chairmen of certain divisions by virtue of their offices, the various divisional chairmen be appointed by the Board of Directors upon the recommendation of the Executive Director and with the concurrence of the President of the Synod;

4. Finally, that an appointment to the chairmanship of the Division of Church Literature be permitted from nonsalaried personnel attached to the agencies in this division.

#### Section V, pages 426 to 428, Executive Director

##### *Resolved:*

1. That the position of Executive Director be established. He shall be the full-time executive officer under the Board of Directors and shall formally establish a necessary relationship with the synodical agencies. A major portion of his time as this executive officer shall, of necessity, be devoted to the needs and problems of the agencies of the Synod and their executives. He shall, as executive officer under the Board of Directors, function in close and continuous relationship to these agencies. He shall be the principal agent of communication between the agencies and the Board of Directors, transmitting to the Board the requests and inquiries of the agencies and conveying to the agencies the decisions of the Board;

2. That the duties of the Executive Director include the following:

- a. Assist the President in his administrative supervisory duties;
- b. Serve under the Board of Directors as its executive officer;
- c. Serve as chairman of the Council of Administrators proposed in Section VI of this report;
- d. Exercise leadership among the divisional chairmen of all divisions, except the Division of Finance and the Division of Controllershship, by guiding and counseling them in their planning, budgetary, and other divisional leadership activities; by encouraging them in the use of sound administrative techniques; by generating teamwork among them; and by advising them in the solution of their problems;

e. Be continuously alert to opportunities for the practice of economy and for the increase of effectiveness in the divisions represented by the divisional chairmen;

f. Encourage and promote effectiveness and economy through the only means by which these ends can be achieved in a dynamic organization, namely, through competent planning, good organization, and willing self-control — all this in all agencies but always within a framework and in a spirit of common interest in the pursuit of common ends;

g. Promote the utilization of research facilities, research data, and research conclusions in the formation of agency plans and in the integration of these plans;

h. Present and defend such integrated plans and budgets to the Board of Directors, and to communicate to this Board the requests and inquiries of the agencies of the Synod;

i. Act as the agent of the Board, in conveying to the agencies of the Synod the decisions of the Board, and act as its agent in supervising the observance of these decisions;

j. Keep the Board adequately informed on progress toward the execution of synodically adopted plans and on the observance of policies;

3. That the Board of Directors provide the Executive Director with staff assistance as the need for such assistance becomes clear.

#### Section VI, pages 428 to 430, Council of Administration

##### *Resolved:*

1. That a Council of Administrators be established. The council shall consist of the following twelve men, all of whom are members of the administrative staff. They are:

The President of the Synod

The First Vice-President of the Synod

The Executive Director, as chairman of the Council

The chairmen of the following seven divisions:

World Missions

North American Missions and Special Ministries

Higher Education

Communications and Public Relations

Parish Education and Parish Services

Social Action and Welfare

Church Literature

The Treasurer of the Synod

The Controller of the Synod

2. That the duties of the Council of Administrators shall include the following:

a. Assemble, interpret, and, after review and approval by the Board, to distribute among the divisions and departments long-range forecasts of synodical growth; synodical income, disbursements, and fixed investments; mission opportunities; needs for pastors, teachers, and other workers and the consequent developmental requirements of synodical educational institutions; other auxiliary and service activities; and headquarters staff requirements;

b. Prepare and submit to the Board of Directors long-range, comprehensive plans of synodical work in which the principles of balance and co-ordination will be significantly reflected in all their important implications;

c. Prepare and submit to the Board of Directors short-range, comprehensive, and reasonably detailed plans annually in which the opportunities and the limitations of the Synod will be expressed in relation to current expectations but under the guidance of the long-range plans;

d. Develop, with the approval of the Board of Directors, the procedures by which such plans can best be made, and develop suitable forms of presentation which will permit such plans to be presented concisely, intelligibly, and fairly;

e. Recommend periodically to the Board of Directors adjustments or revisions of long-range plans as experience reveals the need for such changes;

f. Prepare and submit to the Board of Directors the budgets of the Synod;

g. Recommend to the Board of Directors such changes in approved plans as may become demonstrably necessary when forecasts fail to materialize or when for other reasons the approved plans of the Synod cannot be carried out;

h. Review periodically the actual performance of all divisions and departments;

i. Work out the details of any changes or adjustments in budgets which the Board of Directors may require in the exercise of its powers;

j. Encourage a uniform observance, throughout the divisions, of sound and efficient administrative and operational procedures and routines;

k. Invite periodically all executives of all agencies of the Synod to plenary meetings of the Council.

**Section VII, pages 430 to 431, Research Department***Resolved:*

1. That a central Research Department be established and that its functions be as follows:

a. Study continually the growth characteristics of the Missouri Synod; prepare long-range and short-range forecasts of synodical growth in terms of significant growth factors; and revise these forecasts from time to time;

b. Prepare long-range and short-range estimates of synodical income and fiscal needs;

c. Study continually the utilization in the Synod of pastoral, teaching, administrative, and other personnel; and prepare periodic estimates of the future needs for such personnel;

d. Study continually the social, economic, and political environment of Synod and estimate the impact of change in this environment upon the Synod;

e. Co-ordinate and eventually centralize much of the scattered research work now being done in synodical agencies in order to permit this work to be performed with a necessary technical skill and competence and with economy in the use of time and money;

f. Provide technical advice and guidance for the agencies of the Synod in the performance of research work which they should undertake;

2. That the Research Department be initiated by the appointment of a trained and technically competent Research Director.

**Section VIII, page 431, Selection of Nonelective Personnel Only by Appointment***Resolved:*

That hereafter, in the interest of desirable and uniform practice, all executive secretaries and all other salaried personnel attached to any and all agencies of the Synod, as well as all general administrative personnel of the Synod not subject to election, be placed in their positions only by appointment.

**Section IX, pages 431—432, Nominations Committee***Resolved:*

1. That a Nominations Committee for the selection of appointive administrative personnel be established, consisting of five persons, appointed by the President of the Synod;

2. That the duties of the Nominations Committee relative to

the selection of all appointive administrative personnel in the Synod above clerical rank (except divisional chairman) shall be:

a. To require of the synodical agency which is to be served by a prospective appointee a reasonably detailed statement of the duties and personal requirements of the position which is to be filled;

b. To solicit, from all appropriate sources, suggestions or nominations of persons for the position which is to be filled and to receive nominations from any other sources. In the case of executive secretaries, the Nominating Committee shall also solicit names of qualified personnel from the congregations and Districts of the Synod. The list of nominees shall be published in the official organs of the Synod at least four weeks prior to the date on which the appointment of the executive secretary is to take place;

c. To gather, analyze, and prepare information on nominees;

d. To certify, after having examined the qualifications of all nominees in the light of the specifications of the position, three nominees as candidates to the appointing authority. The appointing authority may then select one of the three nominees or call for a new slate of nominees. Each nominee must have the approval of the President of the Synod;

e. To request the Executive Director to provide the Nominations Committees with necessary technical assistance;

3. That the administrative positions and their corresponding appointing authorities be designated as follows:

a. The Executive Director, by the Board of Directors;

b. Executive Secretaries and agency staff members, by the respective board, commission, or committee, or by the Board of Directors in cases where there is no board, commission, or committee;

c. Other appointive synodical officers and departmental personnel by the Board of Directors or, at its discretion, an agency or officer designated by it;

d. Divisional chairmen, by the Board of Directors on recommendation of the Executive Director, who shall consult with the synodical agencies concerned.

#### **Section X, page 432, Board of Directors**

##### ***Resolved:***

1. That the Board of Directors continue substantially to perform its current functions and duties for the present. The Survey Commission shall explore the following possibilities and shall report on them to the next convention:

a. The possibility of modifying the present committee organization and the functional approach of the Board of Directors so that especially the maximum values of the planning functions of the proposed Council of Administrators may be realized, so that the execution of synodically adopted plans and their related budgets may be effectively and efficiently supervised and so that legal, fiscal, and procedural matters may receive specialized attention.

b. The possibility that it may be desirable to increase the size of the Board of Directors and to specify certain types of experience and specialized competence desirable in members of the Board of Directors.

c. The possibility that some modifications in the powers and duties of the Board of Directors may be desirable, especially in view of the proposed divisional organization and the functioning of the proposed Council of Administrators.

2. That the Division of Finance and the Division of Controllershship be attached directly to the Board of Directors of the Synod.

#### **Section XI, pages 433—434, The Controller**

##### *Resolved:*

1. That the Controller be relieved as rapidly as possible of all responsibilities which are extraneous to the normal and proper duties of a controller and which only interfere with the thorough execution of his very important basic functions;

2. That all responsibilities for the maintenance of the Lutheran Building in St. Louis; for centralized purchasing, printing, and mailing departments; and for personnel matters beyond his own departments be transferred to the Division of Staff Services as soon as possible;

3. That all central accounting activities be placed under the direction of the Controller and be incorporated in the Division of Controllershship;

4. That all financial statements of the Synod, except those which are strictly in the nature of Treasurer's reports, be prepared in the Division of Controllershship under the responsible direction of the Controller and that they be issued by him.

#### **Section XIII, pages 434—435, Changes in Bylaws**

##### *Resolved:*

That the procedures for dealing with any modifications of the Bylaws which may be required by the adoption of the proposals be as follows:

1. That in accordance with the authority given to the Joint Committee to carry out the proposals which this convention adopts, the Survey Commission, in collaboration with the Board of Directors and in consultation with the synodical agencies affected, is authorized to suspend any bylaws which may be in conflict with such proposals, as and when such proposals are put into effect, and to prepare and substitute therefor such new bylaw or bylaws as will be in accord with the Synod's action. Such new bylaw or bylaws shall be examined by the standing Committee on Constitutional Matters as to their agreement or conflict with the Constitution or other sections of the Bylaws before being put into effect. They shall be considered as temporary only and shall be submitted for approval by the Synod at the next convention.

2. That the Survey Commission in collaboration with the Board of Directors prepare, during the next triennium, any such changes in the Bylaws which may be necessary or desirable, and submit these to the next convention.

**Action:** The resolutions in Group II were *adopted* after the words "far as possible those agencies which have the services of" were inserted after the word "as" in the second line of Resolution 1, of Section II; after the words "that agencies and boards within a division shall be encouraged to plan at least one joint meeting each year in order to co-ordinate policy development and broad planning within the divisions" was made in Resolution 5 under Sections I and II; after the words "Negro missions in Africa" had been changed to "its missions in foreign lands" in Resolution 5 under Section III; after the word "of" had been changed to "under" in two lines of Resolution 1 under Section V; after the word "under" had been inserted after the word "Serve" in line b under Resolution 1 in Section V; after the words "parish education" had been added to the words "parish services" in Resolution 1 under Section VI.

**Group III — Proposals for Further Study (pages 435—436)**

*Resolved,* That the following items be referred to the Survey Commission for further study and recommendation to the Synod in the next convention:

1. The relations of the Synod to its Districts, the Districts to congregations, and the congregations to the Synod, for the purpose of examining, clarifying, and, if necessary, improving these relationships as well as the means and methods by which the programs and policies of the Synod are communicated to District Presidents by the President of the Synod.

2. The duties, responsibilities, and function of the College of



Presidents and its place in the government and administration of Synod.

3. The offices and duties of the President; the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Vice-Presidents; the Treasurer; and the Secretary.

4. The relations of the Synod to its member congregations for the purpose of examining the procedures by which synodical agencies serve and assist the congregations and of considering measures by which the rights and needs of the congregations and their common interests in the Synod may be adequately preserved and balanced.

5. The auxiliary organizations within the Synod and their relationships to the Synod.

6. The composition, method of selection, and functions of the various boards, commissions, and committees of the Synod.

7. The tenure of office of elected officers and members of boards, commissions, and committees.

8. The tenure, review, and replacement of appointed personnel.

9. Retirement policies for elected and appointed officers and other salaried administrative personnel.

10. A uniform nomenclature for synodical agencies.

11. Departmentation within divisions.

12. The location of synodical agencies.

13. The desirability of establishing a Department of Conventions.

14. The values and functions of the Fiscal Conference.

15. The desirability of attaching the institutional chaplains to an agency other than the Board for Social Welfare.

16. That all recommendations which the Commission expects to propose for adoption at a general synodical convention be published at least six months prior to the opening date of any such synodical convention.

**Action.** The resolutions in Group III were *adopted*.

**Action:** The entire report as amended was *adopted*.

### Loans to Congregations from Synod's Pension Fund

#### RESOLUTION 32, COMMITTEE 6

##### Memorial 505, page 444, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, Memorials have from time to time been presented to synodical conventions proposing that a portion of the Synodical Pension Fund be made available for church-extension purposes or for loans to congregations; and

WHEREAS, Several independent legal opinions were obtained by the Board of Directors, one of which suggested the possibility of amending the regulations governing the Pension Plan to permit using such funds under certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, The 1956 convention of Synod directed the Board of Directors to appoint a Committee to make a thorough study of the rules, regulations, and manner in which the synodical Pension Funds are administered so as to lawfully permit the use thereof for church-extension purposes or for loans to congregations, and in accordance with this resolution a committee was appointed as directed and has submitted its report in Memorial 505; and

WHEREAS, It is apparent from its report that this committee made a careful study of all phases of the Pension Plan, checking all synodical proceedings from 1932 to 1956, and examining the Plan as originally put into operation and the contracts by which workers and congregations have become members of the Plan; and

WHEREAS, The original Pension Plan provided that any part of the Pension Plan could be amended by the Synod in regular convention and the Pension Plan still contains such a provision; and

WHEREAS, The Certificates of Participation in the Pension Plan which have been issued to participants specifically state that the Pension Plan "as now existing or as hereafter amended" shall become a part of the Certificate "as though originally therein"; and

WHEREAS, The assets of the Pension Fund now exceed \$32,000,000 and there seems to be a general feeling throughout the Synod that a portion of this large sum should be put to use in the further extension of the Kingdom, if possible, and earn greater returns than the Pension Fund is earning at the present time; and

WHEREAS, The report of this committee convincingly points out that while a congregation is a member of the Synod, such membership is purely voluntary; that the congregation is autonomous, and membership in the Synod gives the Synod no power over the congregation's right of self-government nor any equity in its property, and that it cannot be properly maintained, therefore, that loans to congregations are equivalent to Synod lending money to itself; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the recommendation of the special committee to study the use of assets of the Pension Fund be adopted and that a new paragraph "c" be added to Section 10.53 of the Bylaws of the Constitution of the Synod, reading as follows:

"c. Loans may be made from the Pension Fund to incorporated congregations holding membership in the Synod; such loans are to

be secured by first mortgages or first deeds of trust and to be made on a sound investment basis upon such other terms and subject to such rules as may from time to time be established by the Board of Directors for the purpose of administering such loans, taking into consideration rate of return, ability to repay, and value of security."

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Request to Authorize Formation of New District in Northern Minnesota**

#### **RESOLUTION 33, COMMITTEE 6**

**Memorial 523, pages 472—473, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Memorial 523 requests authority to form a new District in northern Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, The request for the formation of a District should come, as a rule, from the District anticipating geographical division; and

WHEREAS, A consideration of this kind involves many factors which are best reviewed and evaluated on the local District level; and

WHEREAS, It is evident from the data presented to the committee that there is no agreement within the District as to the value and wisdom of this particular geographical division; and

WHEREAS, The convention of 1956 set up criteria for the dividing of the Synod into Districts and urged that no further dividing be done unless specific data be gathered and stipulated consultations be carried out—all of which should also be done in this case—; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this request be referred to the Minnesota District for evaluation and recommendation to the next convention of the Synod.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Election of Fort Wayne Board of Control**

#### **RESOLUTION 34, COMMITTEE 6**

WHEREAS, The members of the present Board of Control of Concordia Senior College, Fort Wayne, Ind., were appointed pursuant to a special resolution of Synod; and

WHEREAS, The members of this board should now be elected

in the same manner as are the members of all other synodical Boards of Control; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this board be elected pursuant to Section 6.21 as revised by Resolution 5 of Committee 1, and as set forth on page 177 of *Today's Business*.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

(See page 116 of the *Proceedings* for complete text of Resolution 5, Committee 1.)

### Vote of Thanks

#### RESOLUTION 35, COMMITTEE 6

##### Special Resolution

WHEREAS, The following boards and committees have faithfully performed their duties during the past triennium of Synod; therefore be it

*Resolved* That this convention express its gratitude for their services to —

The Board of Appeals;

The Committee on Constitutional Matters;

The Special Committee Regarding Loans from Synod's Pension Fund;

The Special Committee on Synodical Election Procedures.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Synodical Survey Commission Minority Reports

#### RESOLUTION 36, COMMITTEE 6

Memorial 503, page 438, *Reports and Memorials*

Memorial 504, page 442, *Reports and Memorials*

Unprinted Memorial 530, page 53, *Today's Business*

WHEREAS, These minority reports have been carefully reviewed by your committee, and the authors interviewed in regard to their concerns; and

WHEREAS, Your committee holds that it has incorporated in its report some of the recommendations made; therefore be it

*Resolved*, To hold that the issues raised by them have been considered by this committee in its formulation of Resolution 31. (See page 249)

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Inclusion in "Handbook" of all Matters  
Requiring Same Submitted by Various Committees  
at the 1959 Convention**

**RESOLUTION 37, COMMITTEE 6**

**Special Resolution**

WHEREAS, The procedure at this convention required all floor committees which proposed amendments of Sections of the synodical *Handbook*, or additions thereto, to report these changes to Floor Committee 6 for the purpose of determining whether any such amendments or additions might be in conflict with the Constitution of the Synod or other sections of the Bylaws of the Synod; and

WHEREAS, The following resolutions of the various floor committees were submitted to the Committee on Constitutional Matters for review and found to be free of any conflicts with the Constitution or other sections of the Bylaws of the Synod:

**Committee 1**

*Seminaries and Colleges*

Resolution 2, page 358 in *Today's Business*

Resolution 5, page 176 in *Today's Business*

**Committee 2**

*Missions*

Resolution 36, page 267 in *Today's Business*

Resolution 37, page 270 in *Today's Business*

Resolution 38, page 271 in *Today's Business*

Resolutions 39—49, pages 457—461 in *Today's Business*

Resolution 50, page 321 in *Today's Business*

Resolution 52, page 462 in *Today's Business*

**Committee 6**

*Constitutional Matters*

Resolution 2, page 126 in *Today's Business*

Resolution 5, page 127 in *Today's Business*

Resolution 13, page 131 in *Today's Business*

Resolution 17, page 149 in *Today's Business*

Resolution 19, page 150 in *Today's Business*

Resolution 20, page 151 in *Today's Business*

Resolution 24, page 195 in *Today's Business*

Resolution 25, page 242a in *Today's Business*

Resolution 26, page 289 in *Today's Business*

Resolution 27, page 331 in *Today's Business*

- Resolution 28, pages 331—2 in *Today's Business*
- Resolution 29, page 333 in *Today's Business*
- Resolution 30, page 334 in *Today's Business*
- Resolution 31, page 305 in *Today's Business*
- Resolution 32, page 416 in *Today's Business*

Committee 8

*Publications*

- Resolution 7, page 366 in *Today's Business*
- Resolution 13, page 369 in *Today's Business*
- Resolution 17, page 372 in *Today's Business*

Committee 9

*Hymnology and Liturgics*

- Resolution 1, page 259 in *Today's Business*
- Resolution 2, page 262 in *Today's Business*

Committee 10

*Support and Pensions*

- Resolution 1, page 335 in *Today's Business*
- Resolution 2, page 336 in *Today's Business*
- Resolution 3A, page 466 in *Today's Business*

Committee 11

*Finances*

- Resolution 18, pages 373—374 in *Today's Business*
- Resolution 22, page 376 in *Today's Business*

Committee 13

*Miscellaneous*

- Resolution 20, page 450 in *Today's Business*

*Resolved*, That the standing Committee on Constitutional Matters be instructed to make such amendments or additions to the *Handbook* as are contained in the above-listed resolutions adopted by Synod.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Time Limitation on Reports and Memorials Addressed to Synod

#### RESOLUTION 38, COMMITTEE 6

*Resolved*, That henceforth all reports of committees, boards, and departments and all memorials addressed to the Synod be presented to the President in writing 14 weeks prior to the convention; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the book of *Reports and Memorials* be mailed eight weeks prior to the convention of the Synod to each pastor and teacher of the Synod and to each elected lay delegate.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

## **COMMITTEE 7 — Lodges and Boy Scouts**

### **Report of Commission on Fraternal Organizations**

#### **RESOLUTION 1, COMMITTEE 7**

##### **Memorial 602, pages 491—493, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Commission on Fraternal Organizations has worked diligently and faithfully for the past triennium in contacting and negotiating with various lodges and in providing helpful information and counsel to synodical Districts and congregations; and

WHEREAS, The commission has made available significant tracts and other literature which have proved most helpful to our pastors and laymen; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we receive the report of the members of the commission with gratitude and encourage them to continue in their arduous tasks in the interest of the Kingdom.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **To Accept Lodge Members**

#### **RESOLUTION 2, COMMITTEE 7**

##### **Memorial 603, pages 493—494, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Synod's position concerning lodges or societies of an unchristian or anti-Christian character (cf. Synodical *Handbook* 14.03) is firmly established by Scripture; and

WHEREAS, Memorial 603 contains false premises and inconsistent assumptions, misapplies God's Word, and therefore results in false conclusions; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we reject this memorial and that we reaffirm the Synod's stand on the lodge question as defined in the *Handbook*; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we urgently request the President of the Synod to instruct the District Presidents to make the lodge practice of congregations in their Districts a matter of special concern and, by way of evangelical admonition and discipline, to deal with all pastors and congregations not conforming to the synodical policy as stated in paragraph 14.03 of the synodical *Handbook*.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

## Request by the Commission on Fraternal Organizations for Director of Activities

### RESOLUTION 3, COMMITTEE 7

#### **Memorial 526, page 476, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Objectionable fraternal societies are constantly intensifying their efforts to increase membership; and

WHEREAS, The members of the Synod's Commission on Fraternal Organizations find it impossible to discharge satisfactorily all their responsibilities and tasks and to administer a program of the greatest possible benefit to the church in general; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That in view of its rapidly expanding membership, the Synod continue to maintain a consistently firm policy against membership in such societies and to that end provide every possible help to congregations and pastors in dealing with the lodge evil; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Board of Directors be instructed through the Fiscal Conference to provide the funds necessary to enable the Commission on Fraternal Organizations to carry on its work effectively.

**Action:** This resolution, after one amendment had been made and withdrawn, and after another amendment had been offered and accepted, was *adopted* as printed above.

## Synod's Position with Reference to Certain Statements in the Official Scout Regulations

### RESOLUTION 4, COMMITTEE 7

#### **Memorial 607, pages 500—502, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The questions posed in Memorial 607, pages 500—502, cannot be answered with a simple and unqualified yes or no; and

WHEREAS, Synod has for several decades made extensive and careful studies of the problems underlying these questions and has definitely formulated its findings in the resolution adopted by the 1944 convention; and

WHEREAS, The Commission on Fraternal Organizations, the Board for Young People's Work, and the Committee on Doctrinal Unity have since 1944 repeatedly dealt with the issues raised in said memorial and have always come to the conclusion that the policy adopted by Synod in 1944 is sound and realistic; therefore be it



*Resolved*, That we reaffirm the position taken by Synod in 1944 and restated in subsequent conventions "that the matter of scouting should be left to the individual congregation to decide, and that under the circumstances Synod may consider her interests sufficiently protected" (*Proceedings*, 1944, page 257); and be it further

*Resolved*, That if the signers of said memorial wish to pursue the matter any further, we respectfully refer them to Synod's Committee on Doctrinal Unity.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Commending Mr. Benjamin Holt

#### RESOLUTION 5, COMMITTEE 7

*Resolved*, To commend Mr. Benjamin Holt for his courageous testimony on the anti-Christian character of the lodge; this testimony constitutes a significant contribution of the educational campaign against anti-Christian societies.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### COMMITTEE 8 — Publications

#### Report of Concordia Publishing House

#### RESOLUTION 1, COMMITTEE 8

##### Memorial 701, page 532, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The Lord of the church has visibly blessed the activity and operation of Concordia Publishing House; and

WHEREAS, Concordia Publishing House has been a vital instrument in the hands of God for disseminating the Word through the printed page and other media; and

WHEREAS, Concordia Publishing House is at this time celebrating its ninetieth anniversary; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this 44th regular convention thankfully recognize both the past accomplishments of Concordia Publishing House and the fact that it has reached an important milestone in its history; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we commend Dr. Otto A. Dorn, general manager, the Board of Directors, and the staff of more than 600 dedicated persons, for their Christian loyalty, leadership, and awareness of the needs of the church.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Tract Mission****RESOLUTION 2, COMMITTEE 8****Memorial 702, page 551, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The distribution of Christian tracts is invaluable in the dissemination of God's Word; and

WHEREAS, Such distribution has proved its effectiveness in soul winning, especially in our foreign fields; and

WHEREAS, Reports indicate that this distribution has also, in a measure, counteracted anti-Christian printed materials; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we commend Concordia Publishing House for having established the Concordia Tract Mission; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we encourage all congregations to avail themselves of the tracts and also to give tangible support to the program, directly and also through synodical appropriations.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Report of the General Literature Board****RESOLUTION 3, COMMITTEE 8****Memorial 702, page 548, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The General Literature Board has worked faithfully in initiating and encouraging the publication of Christian literature to serve the church's needs; and

WHEREAS, The Board has been responsible for giving our church such valuable works as seven volumes of *Luther's Works*; *The Sermon and the Propers*; *From Teens to Marriage*; *Little Visits with God*; and similar outstanding publications during the past triennium; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this convention commend the General Literature Board for its fine work and encourage the members to continue their great service to the church.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Report of Young People's Literature Board****RESOLUTION 4, COMMITTEE 8****Memorial 703, page 554, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Young People's Literature Board advises that Dr. John Theodore Mueller has served the board as chairman for thirty years; and

WHEREAS, He has performed his responsibilities most efficiently and faithfully; and

WHEREAS, The church has derived many blessings as a result of his editorial ability; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this convention recognize the long and faithful services of Dr. John Theodore Mueller as chairman of the Young People's Literature Board, wishing him God's continued blessing.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Report of Young People's Literature Board**

#### **RESOLUTION 5, COMMITTEE 8**

##### **Memorial 703, pages 552—554, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The promotion of Christian literature for children is both essential and vital; and

WHEREAS, The church must combat the influx of reading materials that would demoralize and lead our children away from the faith; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this convention endorse the expansion program mentioned in the report of the Young People's Literature Board, encourage Concordia Publishing House to allocate the required funds to carry on the program of the Board, and, if necessary, appropriate additional funds to be used by the Board for the purpose of educating the parents and schools in the matter of Christian literature; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we urge all congregations with parish schools and Sunday schools to evaluate their libraries and to make an effort to improve them by placing into them books that are acceptable according to Christian standards; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we encourage congregations to include items in their budget for the maintenance and expansion of the libraries of their educational agencies; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we encourage writers within the church to submit manuscripts of stories for young Christian readers; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we encourage District officials to promote the cause of Christian literature at the local level by speaking to parent groups and discussing the promotion of Christian literature for young readers at pastors' and teachers' conferences; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the Young People's Literature Board continue to correlate its activities with those of the General Literature Board wherever practicable.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

## Report of Editorial Committee of "Advance" Magazine

### RESOLUTION 6, COMMITTEE 8

#### Memorial 707, page 563, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, *Advance Magazine* is providing good and usable programs for the various congregational boards and committees; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we commend the editorial committee and especially the editor, Rev. Elmer Kettner, for their efforts in reporting successful programs and providing thoughtful suggestions for the various congregational needs; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we urge all congregations to provide their boards and committees with this helpful magazine; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That pastors and congregations continue to inform the editorial committee as to the type of articles desired.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

## Committee for Scholarly Research

### RESOLUTION 7, COMMITTEE 8

#### Memorial 708, pages 564—566, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The Committee for Scholarly Research presents a record of valuable achievement during the past triennium; therefore be it

*Resolved*, To express the appreciation of this convention to the Committee for Scholarly Research and to the participants in its projects; and be it further

*Resolved*, To request the Survey Committee which may be charged with realignment of Synod's agencies to note that the Committee for Scholarly Research is not exclusively engaged in publication of literature, but also is active in the promotion of research projects (note p. 425; compare pp. 565—566, *Reports and Memorials*); and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the name of the Committee for Scholarly Research be changed to "Committee for Research"; and that the *Handbook* provisions 2.05a, 11.111, and the preceding title XLF be duly changed.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Reprint Dau's Translation of "Starck's Prayer Book"****RESOLUTION 8, COMMITTEE 8****Memorial 709, page 566, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The matter of reprinting Dau's translation of *Starck's Prayer Book* falls into the area governed by the General Literature Board; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this memorial be placed into the hands of the General Literature Board for consideration and disposition.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

**Publishing Beck's Translation of the Bible****RESOLUTION 9, COMMITTEE 8****Memorial 710, page 567, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The matter of Beck's translation of the Bible was referred by the St. Paul convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod to the Advisory Committee on English Bible Versions (*Proceedings*, 1956, p. 607); and

WHEREAS, The Advisory Committee on English Bible Versions is awaiting the outcome of the action taken by the General Literature Board in this matter; and

WHEREAS, The General Literature Board desires to take no action on publishing Beck's translation of the New Testament until it receives the reaction to his translation *The Christ of the Gospels*; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this memorial be declined.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

**Index to Periodicals Published by The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod****RESOLUTION 10, COMMITTEE 8****Memorial 715, page 571, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod publishes much valuable material in its magazines and periodicals; and

WHEREAS, Such publications contain a great variety of important information; and

WHEREAS, Short scholarly and historical articles are rarely printed in book form; and

WHEREAS, Such important materials found in periodicals may become buried in back volumes; and

WHEREAS, Research into our Synod's past is of growing importance; and

WHEREAS, Indexes are generally considered essential for research in periodical materials; and

WHEREAS, There is at present no key to this valuable material in the way of adequate indexing; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Concordia Publishing House be encouraged to publish a continuing index of the Synod's magazines and periodicals.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Establishing Official Policy re Publication of District Proceedings**

#### **RESOLUTION 11, COMMITTEE 8**

**Memorial 1015, page 711, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The various District conventions of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod are considered to be official conventions of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, according to the *Synodical Handbook*; and

WHEREAS, The proceedings of these conventions record important and official actions of the church in the various localities; and

WHEREAS, It is becoming more and more important that these proceedings be conveniently and safely filed and preserved in usable form; and

WHEREAS, Uniformity of format of the proceedings of each District would greatly simplify this work for the archivists and librarians throughout Synod; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this matter be referred to the College of Presidents for suitable disposition.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **The "Lutheran Witness"**

#### **RESOLUTION 12, COMMITTEE 8**

**Memorial 704, pages 555—556, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The *Lutheran Witness* has in the past three years rendered indispensable service to the Synod in bringing information and inspiration to members and nonmembers; therefore be it

*Resolved:*

1. That this convention express its thanks to the editorial board, the publisher, the editor, managing editor, and associate editors of the *Lutheran Witness* for their faithful and distinguished labors;

2. That greater emphasis be given to doctrinal matters presented in a popular style that will appeal to lay leaders;

3. That this convention urge all congregations of the Synod to foster thoughtful reading and adequate distribution (e. g., through the blanket subscription plan) of the *Lutheran Witness*.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted* after it had been amended by the inclusion of the second-last paragraph.

**Editorial Board of "The Lutheran Witness"  
and "Der Lutheraner"**

**RESOLUTION 13, COMMITTEE 8**

**Memorial 705, pages 556—558, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, A Special Committee on Study of Editorship, Objectives, and Functions of THE LUTHERAN WITNESS and DER LUTHERANER has given extended attention to the procedure for appointing editors of these official organs of the Synod; therefore be it

*Resolved*, To adopt the procedure of appointment recommended by this Special Committee, namely:

1. That an Editorial Board of nine members responsible for the policy of both periodicals be appointed by the College of Presidents, approved by the *Praesidium*, with terms of office so arranged that four men will serve three years, the rest for a six-year period; the recommendations of the Special Committee concerning the constitution of the Board are to be given consideration;

2. That the editors be appointed by the Editorial Board from a list approved by the College of Presidents;

3. That the editors be responsible to the Editorial Board;

4. That the *Handbook* provisions 11.83-11.93, 11.103 be properly altered; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the present Editorial Board of THE LUTHERAN WITNESS continue to function until the new Board is constituted.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Editorial Policy of Official Organs****RESOLUTION 14, COMMITTEE 8**

**Memorial 705, pages 557—558, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The objectives of THE LUTHERAN WITNESS and DER LUTHERANER as official organs of the Synod are at times unclear, causing confusion and difficulty in the editing of the periodicals; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Editorial Board, as soon as possible after its organization, present a clear statement of what it construes the term "Official Organ" to mean. The Editorial Board shall submit its statement, after acceptance by the College of District Presidents, to the 1962 convention for ratification.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Special Problems of Editorship of Official Organs****RESOLUTION 15, COMMITTEE 8**

**Memorial 705, pages 557—558, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Special problems of editorship of THE LUTHERAN WITNESS and DER LUTHERANER, involving tenure of office, training of future editors, and editorial staffs, need further consideration; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That these questions be referred to the Editorial Board for recommendation to the 1962 convention, and that the Editorial Board conduct the interim program according to its discretion.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**"Der Lutheraner"****RESOLUTION 16, COMMITTEE 8**

**Memorial 701, page 536, *Reports and Memorials***

**Memorial 705, page 558, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Special problems confront DER LUTHERANER due to declining subscription lists, although its usefulness appears to remain substantial; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this convention express its appreciation to the editor, the assistant editors, and the publisher of DER LUTHERANER; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the next Editorial Board be given the responsibility of considering the future status of DER LUTHERANER and of making necessary recommendations to future conventions.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.



**Board for Audio-Visual Aids****RESOLUTION 17, COMMITTEE 8****Unprinted Memorial 716, page 80, *Today's Business***

WHEREAS, The Board for Audio-Visual Aids has since its inception fostered the use of visual aids and greatly encouraged the development of these aids by the various agencies of the church and of the Synod (cf. Report 1010, pp. 705—708; see also Resolution 3 of Committee 13, approved by this convention); and

WHEREAS, The use of visual aids has become an integral part of each department of the Synod concerned with education and promotion; and

WHEREAS, The various synodical departments are already functioning through direct contact with the Audio-Visual Aids Department of Concordia Publishing House in the preparation of materials, making the involvement of a special board either cumbersome or unnecessary; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the services of the Board for Audio-Visual Aids be terminated, and sections 7.101, 7.103, and 7.105 of the synodical *Handbook* be dropped; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Board of Concordia Publishing House provide for its Audio-Visual Aids Department an Advisory Committee as presently functioning, in addition to such able men from the field as may be helpful, the expense of this Advisory Committee to be borne by Concordia Publishing House; and be it finally

*Resolved*, Again to express the thanks of the Synod to the members of the Board for Audio-Visual Aids (Prof. C. T. Brandhorst; Revs. H. A. Bielenberg, Karl Maier; Teacher Arthur Amt; Messrs. T. G. Eggers, Ernest Tiemann, Elmer Wangerin) for their pioneer labors and most helpful counsel.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Recognizing Services of Mr. R. C. Obermann****RESOLUTION 18, COMMITTEE 8****Special Resolution**

WHEREAS, Mr. R. C. Obermann has served as a member of the Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House for more than 35 years and for many years also as its president; and

WHEREAS, Concordia Publishing House and The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod have benefited immeasurably through his services; and

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WHEREAS, By his selfless devotion to his Savior and unreserved dedication to His kingdom he has made outstanding contributions to the church on the local and national level; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this convention express to Mr. Obermann its deepest gratitude for his services; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we encourage him to continue his services to Concordia Publishing House in an advisory capacity.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

#### RESOLUTION 19, COMMITTEE 8

dealing with the possibility of having Dr. Herman Sasse's address mimeographed or printed, was *withdrawn*.

#### Filming of Pageant "Declare His Glory"

#### RESOLUTION 20, COMMITTEE 8

##### Special Resolution

WHEREAS, The filming of the convention pageant "Declare His Glory" would involve technical problems outside the field of the competence of Committee 8; and

WHEREAS, It would involve a considerable expenditure of money to film this pageant and to make it available to our congregations; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we refer this matter to the Visual Aids Department of Concordia Publishing House for consideration and disposition with the request that the music of our regular Order of the Holy Communion be used.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

#### COMMITTEE 9—Hymnology and Liturgics

##### Report of Permanent Committee

#### RESOLUTION 1, COMMITTEE 9

##### Memorial 706, page 558, *Reports and Memorials*

*Resolved*, That we commend the Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics for its faithful work as shown in this report and that this report be accepted with the following change (page 562, line 8): That the words "distinct Christian" be changed to "reverent"; and be it further

*Resolved*, That sufficient funds and clerical help be made available to the committee, so that it may carry out its work more effectively; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the name of the committee be changed to: "The Commission on Worship, Liturgics, and Hymnology."

*Action*: This resolution was adopted.

### **Simplifying Language in Prayers and Liturgy**

#### **RESOLUTION 2, COMMITTEE 9**

**Memorial 711, page 569, *Reports and Memorials***

**Memorial 712, page 570, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Memorials 711 and 712 request a modernization of language in public prayers and a simplification of parts of our liturgy; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Commission on Worship, Hymnology, and Liturgics be encouraged to keep these matters in mind in the contemplated revision of *The Lutheran Hymnal* and the new revised *Agenda*.

*Action*: This resolution was adopted.

### **Musical Setting of Hymnal**

#### **RESOLUTION 3, COMMITTEE 9**

**Memorial 713, page 570, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, It is not the intention of the Commission on Worship, Liturgics, and Hymnology to replace *The Lutheran Hymnal* as now constituted with a text-tune edition for our public worship; and

WHEREAS, Both editions will probably be available for use by our congregations as they see fit; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Commission on Worship, Liturgics, and Hymnology continue work on the text-tune edition of *The Lutheran Hymnal* if the demand seems to warrant a text-tune edition and if Concordia Publishing House will be able to produce the text-tune edition in addition to the hymnal as now constituted.

*Action*: This resolution was adopted.

### **Executive Secretary of Worship**

#### **RESOLUTION 4, COMMITTEE 9**

**Memorial 706, page 558, *Reports and Memorials***

*This resolution was referred back to Committee 9 and replaced by the following resolution:*

## **Proposed Regulations for the Commission on Worship, Liturgics, and Hymnology**

### **RESOLUTION 5, COMMITTEE 9**

#### **Memorial 525, page 474, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, No regulations appear in the *Handbook* for the Commission on Worship, Liturgics, and Hymnology (formerly Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics); and

WHEREAS, This commission has served the Synod since about 1930; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the following regulations for this commission be adopted by the Synod and that the standing Committee on Constitutional Matters make proper provision for their inclusion in the *Handbook*.

#### **I. Personnel and Appointment of Commission**

1. A Commission on Worship, Liturgics, and Hymnology, consisting of six men, who represent the pastors, teachers, and laity, shall be appointed by the President of the Synod in conjunction with the Vice-Presidents. The appointment shall be for six years, three of the members to be appointed after each convention.

##### **2. Advisory Members**

The Commission on Worship, Liturgics, and Hymnology may solicit the assistance of others who are not regular members of the commission but who are well qualified to render valuable and necessary service to the church through the commission. They shall serve as advisory members.

#### **II. Vacancies**

The commission shall be empowered to fill any vacancy which may occur, such appointment to be subject to the approval of the President of the Synod.

#### **III. Organization and Meetings**

The commission shall elect its officers and meet as often as may be necessary. It shall appoint from its own membership such committees as it may deem necessary.

#### **IV. Functions and Duties of the Commission**

1. The Commission on Worship, Liturgics, and Hymnology shall be responsible for preparing, revising, and making available official service books and hymnals of the Synod.

2. a. The commission shall be responsible for making available to the members of the Synod literature which will develop and deepen among the Synod's members an understanding and love for the Lutheran heritage in Christian worship and for the various media of expression which are needed for our worship.

b. It shall serve as the official commission of the Synod through which literature related to corporate Christian worship in liturgics and hymnology and made available through the Synod's boards or through Concordia Publishing House shall be cleared; in this area the commission shall assist the official boards and agencies of the Synod.

c. It shall recommend worship materials to the church and advise and warn against the use of worship materials which are unworthy of use in the Christian worship of the Lutheran Church.

3. The commission shall represent the Synod in the preparation of service books and hymnals which the Synod sees fit to make available jointly with other synods.

4. The commission shall maintain contacts with the practical and the music departments of synodical schools and thus seek to establish principles and practices in liturgics, hymnology, church music, and church art which best bespeak the true spirit of worship of the Lutheran Church.

5. The commission shall annually submit a budget to the Board of Directors of the Synod for recommendation and for reference to the Fiscal Conference.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted* as printed above, after it had been amended by changing the wording of paragraph b under Section IV.

### **Executive Director of the Commission on Worship, Liturgics, and Hymnology**

#### **RESOLUTION 6, COMMITTEE 9**

#### **Memorial 706, page 558, *Reports and Memorials***

**WHEREAS,** The permanent Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics suggests in its report that the Synod now "give some thought to the possibility of having a full-time executive director"; therefore be it

**Resolved,** That the Commission on Worship, Liturgics, and Hymnology prepare recommendations with regulations and directives for such an office to the 1962 convention, which convention

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is then to decide on the feasibility of the establishment of the office of an Executive Director of the Commission on Worship, Liturgics, and Hymnology.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

## **COMMITTEE 10 — Support and Pensions**

### **Bolstering Reserve for Investment Depreciation**

#### **RESOLUTION 1, COMMITTEE 10**

##### **Memorial 805-A, page 634, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Board for Support and Pensions recommends that the Contingent Fund, in addition to its use for supplemental benefits, shall also be available, if needed, as an additional cushion in case of possible loss due to investment depreciation; and

WHEREAS, The above recommendation makes available increased interest credit to the active accounts of synodical workers and further bolsters the reserve for investment depreciation; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors of Synod, the Board of Trustees, and the Pension Fund consultant, Dr. George A. Huggins, have voiced their approval to such course of action; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Contingent Fund, in addition to its use for supplemental benefits, be made available, if needed, as an additional cushion in case of possible loss due to investment depreciation; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this authorization be added to the synodical *Handbook*, 10.41c.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Provisions for Survivor Benefits to Widower of a Woman Pensioner**

#### **RESOLUTION 2, COMMITTEE 10**

##### **Memorial 805-B, page 635, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Pension Fund regulations at present make no specific provisions for survivor benefits to a dependent widower of a female pensioner; and

WHEREAS, Today the possibility of a female pensioner's leaving a dependent spouse survivor has become a reality; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That in the event of the death of a female worker leaving a dependent husband surviving her, the term "widower" shall be construed to replace the term "widow" in the provisions of the Pension Plan. The term "dependent husband" shall mean

a husband who has been receiving at least 50% of his support from a female member for normally not less than 12 months immediately preceding such member's death. The benefits granted to a dependent husband shall be subject to the approval of the Board, based upon the evidence of dependency submitted to the Board; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this authorization be added to the synodical *Handbook* as 10.45i.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Change of Restrictions in Synod's Pension Plan**

#### **RESOLUTION 3, COMMITTEE 10**

Substitute Memorial 811, page 84, *Today's Business*  
 Memorial 812, page 642, *Reports and Memorials*  
 Memorial 822, page 662, *Reports and Memorials*  
 Unprinted Memorial 823, page 85, *Today's Business*

*Resolution 3 was recommitted and was replaced by Resolution 3A and Resolution 3B*

### **Change of Restrictions in Synod's Pension Plan**

#### **RESOLUTION 3A, COMMITTEE 10**

WHEREAS, We are living in an inflated economy; and

WHEREAS, There are some retired workers who are now not receiving Social Security benefits; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the limits of earnings for retired members receiving a subsidized pension shall be increased to \$1,800 per year or an average of \$150 per month, effective immediately, without reducing the subsidized portion of their pensions, and that the necessary changes be made in the synodical *Handbook*, Section 10.47b.(3).

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Change of Restrictions in Synod's Pension Plan**

#### **RESOLUTION 3B, COMMITTEE 10**

WHEREAS, The Synod's Pension Plan for professional workers is still in a period of development, and consequently the present retirement pension of \$100 per month contains about sixty per cent subsidy; and

WHEREAS, Any increase in the present minimum pension at this

time would necessarily increase the amount of subsidy required; and

WHEREAS, The Synod now makes provisions for additional support, based on need, beyond the retirement pension to retired members; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the minimum pension remain at the present level (\$100 per month).

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Change of Restrictions in Synod's Pension Plan**

#### **RESOLUTION 3C, COMMITTEE 10**

WHEREAS, The Social Security Act is a social insurance plan; and

WHEREAS, The Pension Plan of the Synod is now a subsidized annuity program; and

WHEREAS, A program of unlimited earnings is incompatible with a subsidized pension plan; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the limits of earnings be retained for retired members even upon reaching the age of 72.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Reducing the Rate of Contributions of Older Workers**

#### **RESOLUTION 4, COMMITTEE 10**

##### **Memorial 813, page 643, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, During the development period of Synod's Pension Plan there are varying amounts of subsidy included in the minimum pension payments; and

WHEREAS, The varying amounts of subsidy are necessary to conform with Synod's policy of providing a minimum pension; and

WHEREAS, After the Pension Plan becomes self-sustaining, it will be to the member's benefit to contribute the full percentage in order to increase the amount of his pension upon retirement; and

WHEREAS, The Pension Plan was founded on sound principles to establish and develop a self-sustaining pension plan; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the present rate of contribution be continued regardless of the age of the member.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.



**Regarding Reorganization of Synod's Retirement  
Plan for Lay Employees**

**RESOLUTION 5, COMMITTEE 10**

**Memorial 156, page 212, *Reports and Memorials***

**Memorial 814, page 644, *Reports and Memorials***

**Memorial 815, page 645, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, A number of requests have been received for the revision of the policies and regarding the extent of personnel coverage of Synod's Retirement Plan for Lay Employees; and

WHEREAS, A question has been raised regarding the proposal to expand the present Retirement Plan for Lay Employees, or to consolidate the present Pension Fund with the present Lay Retirement Program; and

WHEREAS, The proper solution to the above question is beyond the scope of Committee 10 at present; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this convention authorize the President of Synod to appoint a committee of representative personnel to study thoroughly the possibility and advisability of instituting a more comprehensive pension program for all qualifying lay employees of Synod, of all Districts of Synod, of colleges and seminaries, as well as lay persons serving boards, agencies, and other organizational units, wholly within the church; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this committee recommend to the next synodical convention a course of action.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Resolution of Appreciation**

**RESOLUTION 6, COMMITTEE 10**

WHEREAS, The Board of Support and Pensions during the past triennium has worked with constant concern and great solicitude for the welfare of the Veterans of the Cross in administering the funds for Pension and Support; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this convention herewith express its sincere appreciation and commendation to the Board and its Executive Secretaries and invoke the blessings of God upon their future labors.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**COMMITTEE 11 — Finances****Concordia Publishing House to Make Materials Available to Lutheran Schools on Examination Basis and to Grant 25% Discount on Volume Orders****RESOLUTION 1, COMMITTEE 11****Memorial 714, page 571, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The giving of discounts is a business policy within the jurisdiction of the Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Memorial 714 be referred to the Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House for consideration.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Report of Board of Directors****RESOLUTION 2, COMMITTEE 11****Memorial 801, pages 572 ff., *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors of the Synod through its triennial reports has indicated that it has once again rendered distinguished service to the church in the various phases of its work; and

WHEREAS, It is evident that God has given us able and faithful men for the performance of the arduous duties placed upon this Board; therefore be it

*Resolved*:

a) That the Synod in convention assembled accept the report of the Board of Directors as presented to this convention on pages 572 to 582 of the *Reports and Memorials*;

b) That the Synod herewith express its heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation to the members of the Board of Directors;

c) That the Synod express its gratitude to God for having given to His church this group of consecrated and conscientious leaders.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Report of Synod's Treasurer****RESOLUTION 3, COMMITTEE 11****Memorial 802, pages 586 ff., *Reports and Memorials***

*Resolved*, That we adopt the extensive and detailed report of Synod's Treasurer as found on pages 586—607 of the *Reports and Memorials*; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we express our appreciation to the entire staff of the fiscal office and particularly to Dr. M. E. Strieter, Treasurer; Mr. R. C. Rauscher, Controller; and Mr. C. E. Groerich, Assistant Treasurer, for their faithful services.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Resolution of Thanks to Dr. W. H. Schlueter,  
Former Treasurer of Synod**

**RESOLUTION 4, COMMITTEE 11**

**Special Resolution**

WHEREAS, Dr. W. H. Schlueter has faithfully and generously served our Synod since 1923 as a member of the Board of Directors and since 1941 as Treasurer of the Synod; and

WHEREAS, Considerations of health have constrained him to resign as Treasurer of the Synod; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the convention give Dr. Schlueter a rising vote of thanks as an expression of appreciation for his untiring devotion and dedicated service rendered to the church.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Report of Board of Trustees of Synod's Trust Funds**

**RESOLUTION 5, COMMITTEE 11**

**Memorial 803, pages 608 ff., *Reports and Memorials***

*Resolved*, That the report of the Board of Trustees of Synod's Trust Funds be adopted; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Synod recognize the valuable service rendered by this Board in conscientiously managing, investing, conserving, and protecting the Synod's trust funds; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Synod hereby express its gratitude to the members of this Board for their capable service.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Missionary Education Program**

**RESOLUTION 6, COMMITTEE 11**

**Memorial 804, page 624, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The task of our congregations to train their members in mission education and to give them adequate information regarding the work of the church has grown enormously because of our rapid pace of mission expansion; and

WHEREAS, Our mission-education program is lagging even though our church has a worldwide mission program which ranks favorably in comparison with those of other Christian church bodies;

WHEREAS, The members of the Synod are entitled to full, up-to-date, and interesting information about the work they support with their prayers, activities, and offerings; therefore be it

*Resolved:*

1. That District, circuit, and congregational leaders give their strong support to the new mission-education program to be launched this fall by making their congregations aware of the expanding mission program, and by encouraging their congregations to co-operate in the study of the mission-education themes planned for the next six years as these become current;

2. That Districts, circuits, and congregations instruct their stewardship departments to make mission education an important part of the committee's stewardship activity and to fix responsibility for an effective program upon the stewardship committee;

3. That as a supplement to the insufficient time usually available for mission study, congregations earnestly consider sponsoring an annual mission school meeting one night a week for four weeks (or a similar plan), preferably during the Epiphany season, availing themselves of the materials offered by the Department of Stewardship, Missionary Education, and Promotion.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Every-Member Visit and Sector Plan**

#### **RESOLUTION 7, COMMITTEE 11**

**Memorial 804, page 625, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Approximately fifty per cent of the congregations in the Synod are now annually conducting an Every-Member Visit, which has proved to be an orderly and systematic plan to bring about a God-pleasing strengthening of the membership by

1. Winning them for a deeper commitment of their lives to Christ and His cause by strengthening the bonds of Christian fellowship;

2. Acquainting them with the God-given purposes of a Christian congregation and instilling in them a deeper appreciation of the privileges and duties of membership in a Christian congregation;

3. Developing a lay leadership to promote more effectively "our Father's business";

4. Cultivating the grace of proportionate giving and encouraging the members to provide Christ-honoring gifts adequate for all the local needs as well as for the outreach for Christ in all the world; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That every congregation be urged to conduct annually a well-planned and effectively executed Every-Member Stewardship Visit; and be it further

*Resolved*, That congregations avail themselves of the helps offered by District and circuit stewardship leaders, the Sector Plan, and the many helpful materials prepared by the Synod's Stewardship Department.

*Action*: This resolution was adopted.

### **Adequate Support for District and Synod**

#### **RESOLUTION 8, COMMITTEE 11**

##### **Memorial 804, page 627, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The lack of adequate support for synodical work is evident in the fact that in 1959 more than 500 congregations made no definite commitment to that work and that in the past few years 60 per cent of the congregations have not assumed their rightful responsibility before the Lord and the church; and

WHEREAS, The failure to remit regularly and adequately in the first eight months has forced extensive borrowing by the Synod's Treasurer and frequently has resulted in failure of those congregations who remitted irregularly during the first part of the year to meet their rightful responsibility by the end of the year; and

WHEREAS, All congregations of the Synod are responsible for adequate support of District and Synod; and

WHEREAS, This support is always possible under the blessing of God; therefore be it

##### *Resolved*:

1. That all congregations make a definite commitment or set a definite goal for District and the Synod each year;

2. That all congregations which in 1959 did not assume their rightful responsibility for District and the Synod reconsider their commitment or goal for this year and endeavor to assume at least their rightful responsibility for 1960 and the years following;

3. That congregations be urged to send in one twelfth of their commitment or goal each calendar month;

4. That congregations avail themselves of the counsel of their Circuit Counselor, circuit stewardship cochairman, or stewardship

cabinet member, in their planning to give adequate support to their own program through District and the Synod;

5. That the congregations failing to remit adequately for the support of their District and the Synod be made the pressing and continuing concern of the District Presidents, District stewardship committees, Circuit Counselors, and their circuit stewardship helper(s).

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Revised Procedure in Establishing Synod's Budget**

#### **RESOLUTION 9, COMMITTEE 11**

**Memorial 808, page 640, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The proposed Memorial 808 in its present form does not offer a satisfactory solution of the problems connected with establishing the synodical budget; and

WHEREAS, The proposed Memorial 808 would indicate that a study of the procedure in establishing the Synod's budget is desirable; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Memorial 808 in its present form be respectfully declined; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the method of establishing the synodical budget be given intensive study by a committee consisting of the Board of Directors and the Stewardship Department; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the findings of this committee be submitted to the 1960 Fiscal Conference for consideration, and that the recommendation of the Fiscal Conference be submitted to the 1962 convention of the Synod.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Assuring Adequate Appropriations for Synod's Mission Program**

#### **RESOLUTION 10, COMMITTEE 11**

**Memorial 816, page 645, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, It has become quite apparent that the expanding program of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod will continue to require increasingly larger appropriations of funds to the various departments; and

WHEREAS, It has been the recurring experience in the years of the recent past that because of sizable deficiencies in budget funds, and in the interest of preventing larger year-end deficits, appro-

priations to individual departments had to be reviewed and adjusted in the course of the fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, Such downward adjustments in appropriations, previously made, appear to have had an adverse effect particularly upon the program of our missions department; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod go on record as instructing its Board of Directors and the Fiscal Conference, in the appropriation and allocation of synodical funds, to avoid, whenever and wherever possible, any revision or adjustments in appropriations which might adversely affect our expanding missionary program.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Designation of Gifts for Foreign Missions

#### RESOLUTION 11, COMMITTEE 11

##### Memorial 817, page 646, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The opportunity to designate special gifts for foreign missions already exists (e. g., through the Missions Projects Catalog); and

WHEREAS, The method of designating gifts for foreign missions recommended in Memorial 817 is in opposition to established policy and would cause imbalances in the synodical budget; and

WHEREAS, The interest of our people in world missions can be increased through the new missionary education program to be launched this fall by the Synod's Stewardship Department; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we respectfully decline Memorial 817; and be it further

*Resolved*, That our people be encouraged to use the existing regular channels to give for foreign missions; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the convention commend the men who submitted Memorial 817 for their deep interest in the cause of foreign missions.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Investing Part of Pension Fund in Equities

#### RESOLUTION 12, COMMITTEE 11

##### Memorial 818, pages 646, 647, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors and the Trustees of the Pension Fund already have the authority to invest a portion of the Pension Fund in equities if they deem it advisable; and

WHEREAS, The resources of the Pension Fund are being invested by its Trustees in accordance with strict rules laid down by the Synod's Board of Directors based on sound advice by investment specialists; and

WHEREAS, Since April 1959 the Board of Trustees of the Synod's Pension Fund has been investing funds in equities up to 25% of its total investments; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we consider the requests in Memorial No. 818 to have been provided for satisfactorily.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Concerning Annual Budget Needs for Various Auxiliary Agencies in the Council of Lutheran Agencies**

#### **RESOLUTION 13, COMMITTEE 11**

**Memorial 819, pages 647, 648, *Reports and Memorials*  
Unprinted Report, page 256, *Today's Business***

WHEREAS, Auxiliary agencies of our Synod are best supported at the local level and by local interest groups; and

WHEREAS, To place these auxiliary agencies, or any number of them, in a second synodical budget would result in a disproportionate emphasis on a certain phase of the work of the church; and

WHEREAS, The procedure outlined above would give priority to some agencies over against some others which are equally worthy; and

WHEREAS, Some Districts are giving support at the District level to agencies within their areas; and

WHEREAS, The procedure outlined would place the Synod under budgetary commitments to agencies over whose expenditures it has no control; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we respectfully decline Memorial 819; and be it further

*Resolved*, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, assembled in its 44th convention at San Francisco, Calif., reiterate its wholehearted recommendation to all its Districts, congregations, and members to continue to support generously the various religious, educational and charitable endeavors of the several members of the Council of Lutheran Agencies, that by, in, and through them the will of God may continue to be done to the glory of God and the salvation of immortal souls.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.



### **Recommending an Annual Synodwide Appeal for Financial Support of Lutheran Charities**

#### **RESOLUTION 14, COMMITTEE 11**

**Memorial 820, pages 648, 649, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The feasibility of an annual Synodwide appeal for financial support of Lutheran charities, as recommended in Memorial 820, should be carefully studied before such Synodwide appeal is authorized; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed by the President of the Synod, in consultation with its Board of Social Welfare, to consider this matter, with instructions to report to the next regular convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Intrasynodical Organization Financial Reports**

#### **RESOLUTION 15, COMMITTEE 11**

**Unprinted Memorial 826, page 91, *Today's Business***

WHEREAS, So-called intrasynodical organizations within the framework of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, but not a part of the synodical organization, are collecting millions of dollars from the members of our churches; and

WHEREAS, Some of these organizations solicit funds not only within their Districts, but from all parts of the Synod; and

WHEREAS, It is a part of good management and good stewardship that such organizations put financial statements into the hands of their contributors; and

WHEREAS, It is not feasible to print all such financial statements in the *Lutheran Witness*; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That intrasynodical organizations be urged to submit their financial statements directly to their constituencies, if they are not already doing so, and that a copy of such financial statements be placed on file with the Board of Directors of the Synod.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Investigate Possibility of Group Insurance for Churches**

#### **RESOLUTION 16, COMMITTEE 11**

**Memorial 810, page 641, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Mutual insurance plans within church bodies have been found impracticable in past experience and have been judged unwise by competent men in the insurance field; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the proposal to investigate the possibility of group insurance for churches be respectfully declined.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Establishing Fund-Raising Service**

#### **RESOLUTION 17, COMMITTEE 11**

**Memorial 809, page 641, *Reports and Memorials***

**Unprinted Memorial 824, pages 86—88, *Today's Business***

WHEREAS, The convention of 1956 resolved to "encourage the formation of a fund-raising service for our congregations to be organized and administered by a private group within our Lutheran constituency, whose policies shall be formulated in consultation with the Stewardship Department and periodically reviewed by the Stewardship Department"; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors reports (p. 579) that it "spent many hours in a determined effort to carry out this resolution, but encountered unanticipated difficulties which convinced the Board that the resolution as adopted is unworkable"; and

WHEREAS, After thorough discussion, your committee is persuaded that independent agencies operating under synodical supervision, as well as such agencies within the framework of the Synod, would create serious problems in administration; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod decline at this time to establish any official fund-raising services; and be it further

*Resolved*, That Unprinted Memorial 824 be referred to the Board of Directors and to the Stewardship Department for study and that they submit their findings to the 1962 convention of the Synod; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That in the meantime the interested congregations continue to avail themselves of the services of competent fund-raising agencies.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Amend Bylaws of Constitution Paragraphs 1.05 and 3.75**

#### **RESOLUTION 18, COMMITTEE 11**

**Memorial 804, page 626, *Reports and Memorials***

*Resolved*, That we favor the adoption of the *Handbook* changes as contained in Recommendation III, page 626b of *Reports and Memorials*, to wit: To add to the end of the sentence of paragraph

1.05 the words "by word, deed, and adequate financial support"; to insert the word "adequate" between the words "urge" and "support" in paragraph 3.75 g. (The above resolution has also been endorsed by Committee 6)

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Acceptance of Report on The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation

#### RESOLUTION 19, COMMITTEE 11

Memorial 821, pages 649—661, *Reports and Memorials*

*Resolved*, That the report on The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation be accepted; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the convention of the Synod give a vote of thanks and commendation to the Fiscal Conference and to the Board of Directors for their prompt and decisive action in taking the necessary steps to establish The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation and engaging an executive director.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Memorial Regarding The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation

#### RESOLUTION 20, COMMITTEE 11

Memorial 821, page 653, *Reports and Memorials*

*Resolved*, That the memorial regarding The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation (page 653 b of *Reports and Memorials*) be adopted, to wit:

"WHEREAS, The Lord of the church has placed before our Synod many remarkable opportunities for Gospel testimony, both at home and abroad; and

"WHEREAS, Our church is limited in the extent of its acceptance of these missionary opportunities by the lack of the necessary means; and

"WHEREAS, The Synodical Board of Directors in its meeting of September 8, 1958, *established*, and the Fiscal Conference in its meeting of September 9 to 11, 1958, *ratified*, the plan of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in convention assembled at San Francisco, California, June 17 to 26, 1959, herewith ratify and approve the action of the Synodical

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Board of Directors in establishing The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation, a subsidiary corporation; and be it further

*“Resolved, That the Synod implore the overflowing blessing of the Lord of the church upon the Foundation, so that under divine benediction it may prove a powerful help in the expansion of our church's work; and be it finally*

*“Resolved, That the Synod commend the new Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation to our congregations and their membership, urging them to utilize the Foundation's services in making special gifts available for our work at home and abroad.”*

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **New Principle of Setting Synod's Budget and the Congregational Support of That Budget**

#### **RESOLUTION 21, COMMITTEE 11**

**Unprinted Memorial 825, pages 89—90, *Today's Business***

*Resolved, That Districts be encouraged to give consideration to the proposals of Memorial 825; and be it further*

*Resolved, That Memorial 825 be given further study and for this purpose be referred to the 1960 Stewardship School; and be it finally*

*Resolved, That the findings of the Stewardship School with recommendations be reported to the 1960 Fiscal Conference for consideration.*

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Rewording Sections 9.61 and 9.63 of the “Handbook” (World Relief)**

#### **RESOLUTION 22, COMMITTEE 11**

**Memorial 1003, pages 678—680, *Reports and Memorials***

*Resolved:*

a. That section 9.61 of the synodical *Handbook* be reworded to read as given in *Reports and Memorials*, pages 678—679;

b. That section 9.63 of the synodical *Handbook* be reworded to read as given in *Reports and Memorials*, pages 679—680;

c. That in the next printed revision of the synodical *Handbook* the regulations governing the Board of World Relief be appropriately removed from Article IX — FINANCES — of the

Bylaws and appear as a separate article or as a division of an article including more appropriately related synodical services;

d. That section II of the memorial be declined and that the final placement of the Board of World Relief in the *Handbook* be left to the standing Committee on Constitutional Matters.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Projection of Synodical Work Program

#### RESOLUTION 23A, COMMITTEE 11

Memorials 801A, pages 582—586, *Reports and Memorials*

801A Supplement, pages 82—83, *Today's Business*

WHEREAS, After many months of gathering facts and figures, and many days of consultation with the boards responsible to Synod for the furtherance of their respective work, and after much prayer and deliberation, the Synod's Board of Directors has presented the anticipated work program for the next two triennia; and

WHEREAS, In this six-year projection, the anticipated needs substantially exceed the projected income; and

WHEREAS, The closing of the probable gap between projected needs and anticipated income will require the united and consecrated efforts of all congregations and members of the Synod; and

WHEREAS, The Synod has demonstrated an increasing potential through the implementation of the Venture of Faith, particularly in those congregations where the program has been well planned and properly executed; and

WHEREAS, The Circuit Counselors' Conference of 1955, representing all areas of the Synod, firmly and unanimously proposed the policy of an all-inclusive budget (operational and capital funds); and

WHEREAS, The 1956 synodical convention gave wholehearted approval to this Venture of Faith with its Every-Member-Visit program; and

WHEREAS, At this time approximately half of our congregations have already accepted and implemented this excellent program of meeting our mission-stewardship responsibility; therefore be it

*Resolved:*

1. That we rejoice in the manifest blessings of God as demonstrated by the results already achieved in the first three years of Our Venture of Faith (an increase of \$2,175,000, or 18%, in offer-

ings for Synod alone from 1957 to 1958; and an increase of some nine million dollars in the past three years for District and Synod);

2. That the Synod assembled at San Francisco in 1959 reaffirm the Venture of Faith resolution of 1956 by calling upon our more than 5,000 congregations, every one of our pastors and teachers, and all our members to unite wholeheartedly in the Venture of Faith program;

3. That all our Districts, circuits, and congregations be urged, through their responsible officers and leaders, to do all in their power under God's blessings to carry out a thorough and effective stewardship program and to make full use of the materials, helps, and services provided by our Stewardship Department;

4. That in particular all congregations be asked to execute effectively a well-planned Every-Member Visit for the purpose of obtaining monetary pledges;

5. That as a supplementary effort we urge all congregations, particularly those who may have difficulty in reaching the desired goal, to gather a special Mission Expansion Offering at least once a year, preferably on Pentecost Sunday;

6. That those congregations which are lagging at this point in the current year be urged to seek and accept help immediately from responsible District officials so that the 1959 commitment of their respective District may be met in full, and to make those of their members who fail to give their support their special concern;

7. That it be impressed upon all members and congregations that shortages in budget income, if not met by more liberal gifts, will necessitate special offerings, curtailment of the Lord's work, or borrowing;

8. That if despite our very best efforts serious deficits should result from the fact that the necessary funds are not supplied by our people through the regular channels of the Venture of Faith, the Board of Directors be authorized, in consultation with the Fiscal Conference (1960 or 1961), to ask our members for a special offering;

9. a) That we renew the borrowing authority of the Board of Directors; and

b) That the Board of Directors be authorized to borrow during the next triennium if and when necessary to meet the cash needs for approved capital-investment items.

**Action:** After an amendment to strike the provision that Synod's Board of Directors be limited to borrowing \$5,000,000 had been adopted, the entire resolution was *adopted*.

### Empowering Board of Directors to Borrow Needed Funds

#### RESOLUTION 23 B, COMMITTEE 11

WHEREAS, It may not be possible to meet all of the approved capital-investment needs through budget receipts without causing cutbacks and retrenchment in other phases of the Synod's work; and

WHEREAS, In line with the resolutions adopted by this convention, the Fiscal Conferences meeting during the next triennium (1959—62) will be called upon to give favorable consideration to further necessary and vital building programs, major remodeling projects, and site acquisitions in connection with the Synod's colleges and seminaries, and also other capital investment mission projects; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Treasurer of the Synod be and hereby is authorized to borrow the necessary funds in the name of the Synod, provided the Board of Directors has first determined the amounts and the conditions under which such funds shall be borrowed for capital-investment purposes, site acquisitions, and building-improvement projects already authorized and additional projects that may be authorized by this convention and for which funds will be appropriated by the Fiscal Conferences during the 1959—62 triennium; and be it further

*Resolved*, That if and when required, the Board of Directors and the responsible officers of the Synod be and hereby are empowered to do all things necessary to effect such borrowings, including the pledging of real and other property belonging to the Synod, in order to secure loans to obtain the necessary funds and to make adequate provision for the proper repayment of such borrowed funds.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Circuit Cabinets

#### RESOLUTION 24, COMMITTEE 11

**Recommendation V of Memorial 804, page 628,**

#### **Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, Our honorable Counselors are officers of District and the Synod, charged with the responsibility of promoting in, and channeling to, their respective congregations in their circuits the co-ordinated and complete program of the Synod and District; and

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WHEREAS, Our Circuit Counselors are busy parish pastors and often have neither the time nor the strength to channel and to communicate to each congregation of their circuit the complete program of Synod and District, with its full implications, throughout the year, particularly as the program of the Synod and District becomes more complex in these days of rather rapid expansion; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the District President and the District Board of Directors encourage Circuit Counselors to select a circuit cabinet composed of three or more competent pastors, teachers, or laymen who are to assist the Circuit Counselor and to work under his leadership in such areas as stewardship, evangelism, parish education, and related fields.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Portion Recommended for District and Synod**

#### **RESOLUTION 25, COMMITTEE 11**

**Recommendation VI of Memorial 804, page 628,**

##### ***Reports and Memorials***

**Unprinted Memorial 827, page 93, *Today's Business***

WHEREAS, We are debtors to the two billion people sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death, and an ever deeper sense of urgency must therefore be generated in our congregations to reach these masses with the Gospel of Christ, and Him Crucified; and

WHEREAS, A larger proportion of parish receipts and offerings must be channeled to District and the Synod if we are to do our share in this ingathering of a world harvest of souls; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this convention urge all congregations to set aside at least one third of their annual current budget for their own work through District and Synod, as recommended by the 1953 and 1956 synodical conventions, and as some 1,200 congregations of Synod are already doing.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Reporting Pledges for Synod's Program**

#### **RESOLUTION 26, COMMITTEE 11**

**Recommendation VII of Memorial 804, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Synod's Board of Directors must know the approximate annual income from our congregations for the Synod's work so that it may be able to adjust annual expenditures accordingly; therefore be it



*Resolved*, That this convention petition every congregation of the Synod to inform its District President no later than Feb. 1 of each fiscal year concerning the amount it has agreed upon for its own work through the Synod in that given year.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Use of Convention Filmstrip and Recording**

#### **RESOLUTION 27, COMMITTEE 11**

##### **Recommendation VIII, page 629, *Reports and Memorials***

**WHEREAS**, Our congregations should be fully and immediately informed of the Synod's future plans which their delegates have decided upon by resolution at this convention, particularly those convention reports and resolutions that have to do with the forward march of the Synod into all the world, and all that this will imply in their adequate support of this God-directed program in the future; and

**WHEREAS**, The Stewardship Department plans to prepare and to send to each congregation and each synodical school late this summer a full kit of materials, including a filmstrip of this convention with pertinent recordings; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That our District Presidents urge the voting body of each congregation to see and discuss this filmstrip and related materials in a special October voters' meeting called for this purpose; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the convention urge every congregation to show this filmstrip this fall to the entire membership and to its societies and educational agencies.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Projection of Synodical Program 1960—1965**

#### **RESOLUTION 28, COMMITTEE 11**

##### **Memorial 801-A, pages 582—586, *Reports and Memorials***

*Resolved*, That the projection of the synodical program 1960 to 1965, found on pages 584 and 585 of *Reports and Memorials*, be approved as a guideline for the Fiscal Conference in preparing the annual synodical budget for the next six years, and as a guideline for the Boards in Synod in planning our church's worldwide Kingdom building program for the immediate future.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Convention Authorizes — Fiscal Conference  
Appropriates**

**RESOLUTION 29, COMMITTEE 11**

**Special Resolution**

WHEREAS, The Bylaws to Synod's Constitution in Section 9.05 in the *Handbook* provide that the Fiscal Conference fix the synodical budget; and

WHEREAS, The large and complex financial operations of the Synod make such procedure advisable and necessary; and

WHEREAS, The Fiscal Conference carries out the resolutions of the Synod within the limitations of funds available; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this convention hereby declares that all expenditures authorized by it shall be subject to appropriations made by the Fiscal Conference as provided for in the Bylaws to the Constitution of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**COMMITTEE 12 — Public Relations**

**Lutheran Television Productions**

**RESOLUTION 1, COMMITTEE 12**

**Memorial 1001, page 664, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, God has signally blessed the production and distribution of the television program "This Is the Life" during the past triennium; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this convention express its thanks to God for the remarkable success which He has granted to this undertaking.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Lutheran Television Productions**

**RESOLUTION 2, COMMITTEE 12**

**Memorial 1001, page 664, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, More than 300 television stations in the United States and Canada have generously provided time and facilities to air our church's television program, "This Is the Life"; and

WHEREAS, These outlets have thereby made a substantial and significant contribution to the moral and spiritual upbuilding of our people; and

WHEREAS, Our church has thereby been privileged to maintain a nationwide Gospel testimony for the past seven years; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, in convention assembled at San Francisco, California, June 17 to 26, 1959, express its deep and heartfelt gratitude to the television stations in the United States and Canada who have given generously of their facilities for our church's television program, "This Is the Life"; and be it further

*Resolved*, That by direction of the convention a copy of this resolution of appreciation be mailed to each of the station managers; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the congregations of the Synod be encouraged to write to the television stations in their area, thanking them for the time given to the "This Is the Life" program, and that the congregations of the Synod also urge their members to do the same as individuals.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Department of Public Relations

#### RESOLUTION 3, COMMITTEE 12

##### Memorial 1002, page 666, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The Department of Public Relations has completed ten years of service at the national level in identifying our church with a Christ-centered message and mission in the public mind; and

WHEREAS, More than five hundred District representatives have rendered valuable assistance to the department in carrying out its work at the District level; and

WHEREAS, The department is currently preparing a Public Relations *Handbook* for use on the parish level (see *Reports and Memorials*, page 671); therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this convention commend the Department of Public Relations for its ten years of faithful service to the church; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this convention encourage the individual congregations of the Synod to use the material now being prepared and soon to be published by the Department of Public Relations.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Expression of Thanks to Agencies of Communications

#### RESOLUTION 4, COMMITTEE 12

##### Memorial 1002, page 666, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The relations of our church with the national and local press have been remarkably good; and

WHEREAS, The acceptance of various materials from our church by television and radio stations has been quite conducive to better public relations; and

WHEREAS, Many theaters and television stations have co-operated in showing the *Martin Luther* film in their areas; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this convention express its thanks for the coverage which our church has received in these areas of communication during the past triennium; and be it also

*Resolved*, That the Department of Public Relations be encouraged to use this resolution to inform the various agencies of communication of the gratitude of this convention.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **The Lutheran Hour**

#### **RESOLUTION 5, COMMITTEE 12**

##### **Memorial 1008, page 694, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Lord has blessed the radio ministry of the Lutheran Laymen's League with evident demonstrations of the power of His Spirit through the Gospel broadcasts of The Lutheran Hour and The Family Worship Hour; and

WHEREAS, This radio ministry now employs more than 1,600 stations in 69 countries and may be heard in more than 100 lands in 59 languages and shows particular effectiveness where it is actively employed in support of a resident ministry or mission endeavor; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, in acknowledgment of the blessings of God, implore His continued guidance and benediction upon the radio ministry of the Lutheran Laymen's League, so that this ministry may still be extended and intensified in providing a global witness for Christ and in direct support of the Synod's work; and be it further

*Resolved*, That all congregations of the Synod be urged to utilize the activities and broadcasts of The Lutheran Hour and the Family Worship Hour in co-ordinating them with their respective efforts, and to support this radio ministry through regular prayers at their church services and meetings and through the financial contributions of their memberships; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the congregations of the Synod be encouraged

to write to the radio stations in their area, thanking them for the time given to the radio broadcasts of our church and that the congregations of the Synod also urge their members to do the same as individuals.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted* after the last paragraph had been amended.

### **The Fish as a Symbol of Our Church**

#### **RESOLUTION 6, COMMITTEE 12**

##### **Memorial 1025, page 720, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod has an official seal (see front cover of *Reports and Memorials*); and

WHEREAS, No need has been shown nor an exceptional desire expressed for the adoption of any additional symbol for The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod; and

WHEREAS, It is the committee's opinion that, if there were a need of, and a desire for, an additional symbol, there would be many other religious symbols that should also be considered; and

WHEREAS, It is the committee's opinion that the matter of judging or evaluating Christian symbols is beyond the purview of this committee; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this convention gratefully decline the memorial at this time.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Radio Station KFUD**

#### **RESOLUTION 7, COMMITTEE 12**

##### **Memorial 1026, page 721, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, Radio Station KFUD will this year observe the 35th anniversary of its founding and of its broadcasting of the Gospel, especially in the Greater St. Louis area; and

WHEREAS, The services of KFUD have been and are being used on a nationwide and worldwide scale, not only by local congregations and pastors, homes and families, but also by Districts, Synod's Department of Evangelism, the Armed Forces personnel, and our chaplains; and

WHEREAS, KFUD is currently providing a valuable service to the church by training our theological students in the techniques

of applying the media of radio and television to the task of the church; and

WHEREAS, The two-minute recorded program "Portals of Prayer" was launched in December 1956 by KFUE in co-operation with Concordia Publishing House and is now broadcast daily by more than six hundred radio stations, reaching an estimated weekly audience of 25 million; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this convention express its gratitude to God for the many blessings which He has bestowed upon KFUE during the past thirty-five years; and be it further

*Resolved*, That all of those who served KFUE in any capacity during the past triennium be commended for their work; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That all congregations of Synod be encouraged to use the recorded materials, extension services, and other helps that KFUE offers for the proclamation of the Gospel over the air.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **COMMITTEE 13 — Miscellaneous**

#### **Continuing the Church's Peacetime Service to her Men and Women in the Armed Forces**

##### **RESOLUTION 1, COMMITTEE 13**

##### **Memorial 407, pages 369 ff., Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, The Armed Services Commission continues to bring Word and sacrament to the 24,000 Missouri Synod men and women in the Armed Forces; to the approximately 12,000 Missouri Synod military dependents and civilians overseas; and to our patients in the Veterans' Administration Hospitals; therefore be it

*Resolved*:

a) That we commend the Armed Services Commission for its patient and effective peacetime work;

b) That we encourage the military chaplains, Veterans' Administration chaplains, and contact pastors in their important work of keeping our service men and women with their Lord and their church; and

c) That we encourage all home pastors and congregations to co-operate with the Armed Services Commission in maintaining contact between our church and the men and women in service.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

## Compulsory Church Attendance of Military Personnel

### RESOLUTION 2, COMMITTEE 13

#### Resolution 18, Committee 13, 1956 *Proceedings*

*Resolved*, That we reiterate Resolution 18, (1956 *Proceedings*, page 763), pertaining to compulsory church attendance of military personnel —

“WHEREAS, Compulsory attendance at religious services in military establishments, as, for example, at the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, and in basic training centers in various localities, is contrary to the true American spirit and may involve infringement of conscience; therefore be it

“*Resolved*, That we petition both the executive and legislative branches of the Government to take such action as will

“1. Abolish the present compulsory attendance of its military personnel at divine services; and will

“2. Afford an opportunity for each denomination at its own expense to provide spiritual care for its members wherever this is not being done”; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we pledge our congregations to support the 1956 resolution and that we urge our Armed Services Commission to continue its efforts in this matter until the desired goal has been reached.

#### **Action**

This resolution was *adopted* after it had been amended to include the last paragraph, beginning with the words “That we pledge our congregations to support,” etc.

## Board for Audio-Visual Education

### RESOLUTION 3, COMMITTEE 13

#### Memorial 1010, page 705, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The Board for Audio-Visual Education, in co-operation with Concordia Publishing House, has faithfully carried out the work of this department, and has done this work without an allocation from the Fiscal Conference; and

WHEREAS, This Board has produced or otherwise made available a large number of motion pictures, filmstrips, and sound presentations; and

WHEREAS, These materials have been made available to our churches everywhere; therefore be it

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*Resolved,*

a) That we commend the Board for Audio-Visual Education for its faithful and effective work; and

b) That we urge our congregations and synodical constituents to utilize the materials produced and recommended by the Board for Audio-Visual Education.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Invitation to 1965 Convention**

#### **RESOLUTION 4, COMMITTEE 13**

**Memorial 1011, page 708, *Reports and Memorials***

**Memorial 1012, page 709, *Reports and Memorials***

**Memorial 1031, page 728, *Reports and Memorials***

**WHEREAS,** An invitation to hold the 46th convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in Detroit in 1965 (1964) was extended by the Michigan District; and

**WHEREAS,** The Michigan District has submitted very thorough and acceptable plans; and

**WHEREAS,** Either 1965 or 1964 would be acceptable to the Michigan District; therefore be it

*Resolved,* That we accept the invitation to Detroit for the 46th convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in 1965 (1964); and be it further

*Resolved,* That we express our thanks for similar invitations extended by the Colorado District and by the Des Moines Circuit of the Iowa District West.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Status of Teachers and Directors of Music**

#### **RESOLUTION 5, COMMITTEE 13**

**Memorial 204, pages 304—305, *Reports and Memorials***

**WHEREAS:**

1. Prior to the establishment of the principle of entering upon the work of the teaching profession of our church through the Assignment Board, teachers did officially enter the teaching profession through other and temporary arrangements; and

2. It is frequently necessary to establish the time when they became teachers; and

3. The position of directors of music and education has not yet been clarified; therefore be it



*Resolved:*

- a) That a male teacher establish his status upon graduation from one of our recognized teachers colleges or through colloquy by entering the work of the church through any kind of contractual relation with the congregation through the Assignment Board;
- b) That he maintain this status on the official roster of the Synod through the respective District President;
- c) That any irregularity which exists shall be cleared with the respective District President;
- d) That the directors of music and education who are graduates of any one of our recognized teachers colleges or have passed a colloquy, and are eligible for a call in any one of our schools, be considered teachers, with all the rights and privileges pertaining to this office.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Concordia Historical Institute

#### RESOLUTION 6, COMMITTEE 13

##### Special Resolution

WHEREAS, The Concordia Historical Institute has created and maintained an interest in the history of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and led its membership into a deeper understanding and appreciation of its history; and

WHEREAS, Under God, the Institute has instilled into the membership of the Synod a greater sense of gratitude to the Lord of the church for His many and diverse gifts; and

WHEREAS, The Institute has stimulated historical research and has published the findings; and

WHEREAS, The Institute has been instrumental in stimulating a greater love and deeper loyalty for the church through its historical collection and materials; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we thank God for the innumerable blessings of the past, both for the leadership which He has granted us throughout the past century and for the countless opportunities He has given us as a church; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we commend the Concordia Historical Institute, its Board of Governors and its director, for their faithful services and concern for the collecting and proper preservation of those materials which show future generations the mercies and kindnesses of the Lord of the church; and be it further

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*Resolved*, That we thank all synodical boards, commissions, agencies, and officers, as well as the many congregations and individuals who have contributed financially and materially to the maintenance and extension of this work; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we urge all servants of the Synod and all others participating in the extension of Christ's kingdom through The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod to continue to deposit historical materials, regardless of media, in the historical archives, library, and museum of the Institute; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we urge all congregations of the Synod, as well as its members, to become members of the Institute, and thereby subscribers to the *Concordia Historical Institute Quarterly*; and be it finally

*Resolved*, To encourage the Fiscal Conference of the Synod to give favorable consideration to the budget requirements of the Institute during the next triennium.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Lutheran Laymen's League Support of Concordia Historical Institute's Microfilm Program**

#### **RESOLUTION 7, COMMITTEE 13**

#### **Memorial 1004, page 685, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Laymen's League has continued to support and provide the funds for the extensive microfilm program of the Concordia Historical Institute; and

WHEREAS, This financial support has made it possible for the Institute to build one of the largest Lutheran microfilm collections in America; and

WHEREAS, This microfilm collection enables researchers from all over the country to do their essential research in one place, thus eliminating extensive travel; and

WHEREAS, Such microfilm records have materially increased the research value of the Institute and have substantially contributed to the fact that St. Louis is rapidly becoming the Lutheran Research Center in America; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we voice our deepest gratitude to the Lutheran Laymen's League for its financial support of the microfilm program of the Concordia Historical Institute, and encourage it to continue this important subsidy.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Creating Office of Ecumenical Information

#### RESOLUTION 8, COMMITTEE 13

Memorial 617, pages 510—511, *Reports and Memorials*

Unprinted Memorial 633, pages 65—66, *Today's Business*

WHEREAS, The availability of direct and reliable information concerning the growing and controversial ecumenical development in the Christian world has become very important for firsthand study of the theology, organization, and activity of the various federations; therefore be it

*Resolved:*

1. That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod at this convention authorize the creation of an office of Ecumenical Information;

2. That this office supply information from sources directly connected with the ecumenical movement on a regular and request basis to editors of periodicals and to other individuals and groups in our church;

3. That this office assist conferences of pastors and teachers in the study of the ecumenical movement by making available official publications and periodicals of ecumenical groups to them;

4. That the policies and personnel of this office be determined by the *Praesidium* of the Synod in consultation with the Doctrinal Unity Committee;

5. That the necessary budgetary appropriations for the staffing and operation of this office be authorized by this convention and referred to the Fiscal Conference.

Action: This resolution was *declined*.

### Report on Church Architecture

#### RESOLUTION 9, COMMITTEE 13

Memorial 1005, page 690, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The Committee on Church Architecture is composed of capable men of our faith in widespread areas of our country; and

WHEREAS, The committee has severally and individually made its services available to our congregations in the form of correspondence or personal interviews; and

WHEREAS, This committee has continued to meet to study and to promote Lutheran Church Architecture; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we heartily commend this committee for its

work in the past and urge it to continue to serve in this capacity; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we recommend the services of this committee to all our congregations and boards throughout the Synod.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

## **Full-Time Lay Training School**

### **RESOLUTION 10, COMMITTEE 13**

#### **Memorial 202, page 287, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The need for a Parish Training Program was recognized by the Synod in 1950 by its favorable action on Resolution 3 (page 487, 1950 *Proceedings*), "Enlistment and Training of Our Laity" ("Saved to Serve"); and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod resolved in 1953 by its action on Memorial 204, "Lutheran Bible Institutes for Training Lay Workers" (1953 *Proceedings*, page 344), that it favored the establishment by the Board of Parish Education of one full-time Bible Institute for Lay Training on an experimental basis and by authorizing the Board of Directors of the Synod to allow funds for such an institute; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in 1956 by Resolution 202 (page 276, 1956 *Proceedings*) charged a Planning Commission with the responsibility of bringing back to the 44th regular convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod a report on this matter after an exhaustive study; and

WHEREAS, The Planning Commission of 17 members drawn from various boards of the Synod has submitted an extensive study (Memorial 202, pages 287—303, *Reports and Memorials*, 44th Convention, 1959); and

WHEREAS, The report of the Planning Commission points out the need within The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod for a training school for lay workers, and that lay persons are desirous of entering into this service; and

WHEREAS, The report of the Planning Commission suggests a plan of organization, curriculum arrangement, administrative setup, and implementation of such a training school so that The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod could proceed with the establishment of a lay training school without appreciably modifying other training efforts; therefore be it

*Resolved*:

1. That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod authorize the establishment of a two-year training institute;

2. That the location of the school be determined by the Board of Directors, in consultation with the Board for Higher Education, according to criteria set up by the Planning Commission for a full-time Bible Institute and by the Board for Higher Education;

3. That the general objectives of the school shall be to prepare "mature Christian men and women" for services in churches and missions;

4. That the name of the school be chosen by the Board for Higher Education in consultation with the *Praesidium*;

5. That a practical program of studies which will enable the school to reach its objectives be set up by the administrative staff of the school in consultation with the Board for Higher Education;

6. That the administration of the lay training school be under the Board for Higher Education.

a) That the *Praesidium*, in consultation with the Board for Higher Education, appoint the first Board of Control and that appropriate *Handbook* changes be made for the election of such a Board thereafter.

b) That the Board of Control set up an Advisory Council composed of representatives from various synodical departments and from the lay organization of our church to help keep the training program fused to the practical work of the church.

7. That the school make provisions for two types of students: younger students under 30 as well as experienced, older persons who desire to serve the Lord in a church vocation; that students be at least 20 years old, have a high school diploma or its equivalent, and pass adequate personality, aptitude, and vocational entrance tests;

8. That the administrative and teaching staff be called or appointed according to the procedure of the *Handbook*;

9. That as soon as feasible the lay training institute set up extension programs in other areas of the Synod, utilizing, if possible, the facilities of our existing colleges or other suitable facilities;

10. That the graduates of this school be regarded as parish workers; that they be distinguished from professional pastors and teachers;

11. That the new school be opened as soon as feasible on an experimental and limited basis, as determined by the Board for Higher Education, and if necessary in temporary quarters; and that plans be made to provide the school with adequate permanent facilities in accordance with the school's growth and development;

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12. That the suggested amount of expenditures for the establishment and operation of the lay training school be limited to \$150,000 for the coming triennium, subject to the approval of the Fiscal Conference.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Report of Walther Sesquicentennial Committee**

#### **RESOLUTION 11, COMMITTEE 13**

##### **Memorial 1007, pages 693—694, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Synod at its 1956 convention resolved to observe, in 1961, the 150th anniversary of the birth of Dr. C. F. W. Walther; and

WHEREAS, The observance of this anniversary should serve to intensify the study of the theological contributions which he made, to deepen the loyalty of our Synod to the Scripture principles for which he stood, and to stimulate the continued interest and study in the heritage of our church; and

WHEREAS, The program of observance proposed by the Sesquicentennial Committee in its report to this convention will serve these ends; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod commend the committee for its work thus far and encourage it to carry out its proposed program; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Fiscal Conference be authorized to make the needed allocation during each year of the triennium for carrying out the various phases of this program; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That all members of the Synod be encouraged to observe this anniversary in the manner suggested by the committee.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Combating Racial Discriminations**

#### **RESOLUTION 12, COMMITTEE 13**

##### **Memorial 1018, page 713, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod at its 43rd regular convention in St. Paul, Minn., June 20—29, 1956, adopted a clear and evangelical statement on the subject of racial discrimination; and

WHEREAS, We in sincere penitence before God are humbly grateful for the progress made; and

WHEREAS, It is our belief that the evangelical statement of 1956 would be greatly enhanced by the detailing of some of the practical implications of the Scriptural principles set forth therein; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, in convention assembled at San Francisco, California, June 17 to 26, 1959, respectfully urge ourselves and our brethren in The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod to continue in the good work that was begun at the St. Paul convention and to adopt, at the 44th regular convention of the Synod, the following resolutions, numbered A, B, and C, as amplifications of Synod's 1956 statement of principles.

A

WHEREAS, The Genesis account of creation clearly teaches the unity of the whole human family in that it ascribes a common ancestry to all men; and

WHEREAS, Acts 17:24-28 reaffirms this teaching when it proclaims that this is God's world, that there is but one heavenly Father, and that He is responsible for the creation and welfare of all people; and

WHEREAS, It is a violation of God's will for any man to treat his fellow men with contempt or to despise any particular race of man; and

WHEREAS, The divine plan of creation was violated by man's fall into sin with those evil consequences which are now inherent in the entire human race; and

WHEREAS, God's love is universal in its intent that Jesus Christ should be preached to every creature as the Propitiation for the sins of the whole world; and

WHEREAS, These clear teachings of Scripture are, in effect, being denied by word and deed by many of our fellow countrymen, including, unhappily, some who profess and call themselves Christians; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we take notice of the continuing opposition to these Scriptural truths; that we testify against it, and that we apply these teachings to the eradication of such racial or ethnic antipathies as may still persist in our midst.

B

WHEREAS, Neither Scripture nor science provides us with a clear explanation of the origin of what we call "races"; and

WHEREAS, Idle speculations on this point can be dangerous and misleading; and

WHEREAS, The criteria by which men have traditionally made racial distinctions among human beings are only superficial characteristics, the significance of which has been magnified and grossly exaggerated in the popular mind; and

WHEREAS, The Christian's understanding of nationality and race should be based upon the soundest theological interpretations and the most reliable scientific evidence available; and

WHEREAS, In the present state of our Biblical and scientific knowledge we possess no evidence to prove the alleged innate superiority or inferiority of any race of people; and

WHEREAS, Most tests indicate that the innate intellectual capacity of all races is essentially the same, although there is considerable variation within each race; and

WHEREAS, We must conclude from such knowledge as is available that it is wrong for the Christian to try to justify any kind of racial discrimination on the basis of unwarranted and erroneous assumptions; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we continue our efforts to combat erroneous ideas about race and that we encourage our pastors, teachers, professors, and laymen to utilize every appropriate opportunity to combat ignorance and prejudice by stressing in our congregations, schools, colleges, seminaries, and our daily lives those truths about race which are in accord with sound theology and true science.

### C

WHEREAS, The Synod saw fit to adopt a resolution on race relations at its St. Paul convention in 1956 which, along with a number of other desirable recommendations, "acknowledges our responsibility as a church to provide guidance for our members to work in the capacity of Christian citizens for the elimination of discrimination, wherever it may exist, in community, city, state, nation, and world"; and

WHEREAS, It is essential to the effective implementation of this praiseworthy resolution that its implications be explained to our clergy and laity; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we urge the editors of the LUTHERAN WITNESS and other official publications and literature to give frequent expression to the stand which our church has taken on racial discrimination, as set forth in the resolution adopted in St. Paul.

**Action:** These resolutions were *adopted*.



**Report of The Lutheran Church in Canada****RESOLUTION 13, COMMITTEE 13****Memorial 1006, page 691, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, The three Districts of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod located in Canada and also a number of congregations of the Minnesota District and of the English District located in Canada have, with the consent of the Synod, organized on September 11 and 12, 1958, into "The Lutheran Church in Canada"; and

WHEREAS, This organization has been effected because it offers advantages but in no way affects the relationship with The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod; and

WHEREAS, Synod's Committee on Constitutional Matters has carefully examined the Constitution of "The Lutheran Church in Canada" and declares it to be in harmony with our *Handbook*; therefore be it

*Resolved,*

a) That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, through its officials and Boards, continue to guide and counsel "The Lutheran Church in Canada"; and

b) That we commend "The Lutheran Church in Canada" to the guidance and protection of Almighty God, praying Him that these our brethren will continue loyal to the Scriptures and zealous in ever proclaiming God's grace through the crucified and risen Redeemer of mankind.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted as amended*.

**Conserving Theologically Trained Manpower****RESOLUTION 14, COMMITTEE 13****Memorial 148, page 197, Reports and Memorials****Memorial 1028, page 726, Reports and Memorials**

WHEREAS, The brethren in The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod are concerned with the problem of the shortage of pastors within the Synod; and

WHEREAS, The immediate and long-range plans of our Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod demand more trained pastors than are available or will become available; and

WHEREAS, Certain full-time positions within The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, including the administrative posts within the organizational structure of the Synod and of the several Districts and other administrative posts within the numerous serv-

ices offered and promoted by the Synod, could be filled by qualified laymen; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod adopt an official position enabling the election or appointment of lay persons to full-time positions in the work of the church where theological training is not a necessity; and be it further

*Resolved*, That governing boards of the several Districts, institutions, agencies, and departments within The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod be encouraged to employ qualified laymen to fill administrative or other positions.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Suspending Capital Improvement at Selma and Greensboro Colleges**

#### **RESOLUTION 15, COMMITTEE 13**

##### **Memorial 1030, page 727, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The matter of this memorial is properly the business of the Synodical Conference; and

WHEREAS, The Synodical Conference has appointed a Study Commission to consider the program of its training schools at Selma and Greensboro; and

WHEREAS, Our Board of Higher Education is studying matters pertaining to these training schools; and

WHEREAS, We should encourage these Boards to further the cause of these training schools without unnecessary delay; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this memorial be respectfully declined.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Listing Charitable Organizations Belonging to Synod or Associated with It**

#### **RESOLUTION 16, COMMITTEE 13**

##### **Memorial 1021, page 717, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The information desired is available through *The Lutheran Annual* and the Department of Social Welfare; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we refer this memorial to the Department of Social Welfare and encourage it to disseminate this information according to its best judgment.

*Action*: This resolution was *adopted*.

### Extension of Institutional Chaplaincy Services

#### RESOLUTION 17, COMMITTEE 13

Memorial 1009, page 703, *Reports and Memorials*

*Resolved*, That Resolution 1, page 703 of *Reports and Memorials*, be adopted.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**NOTE:** Resolution 1 reads as follows:

WHEREAS, God has been pleased to bless the efforts of our institutional chaplains throughout the years; and

WHEREAS, Many new opportunities to carry on this blessed missionary work are constantly developing; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Twenty-ninth Delegate Synod of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

1. Recommend to all Districts that through their mission boards or committees or through boards and committees for institutional chaplaincy services they seek out such developing opportunities for institutional chaplaincy services and do everything possible to take advantage of them by securing the appointment of pastors of our Synod as chaplains in county, state, and Federal institutions of all kinds, by calling pastors into full-time service as institutional chaplains, and by appointing parish pastors serving congregations in the vicinity of such institutions as part-time chaplains; and

2. Direct the Department of Social Welfare of Synod to give increased aid to synodical Districts and voluntary chaplaincy agencies within Synod in extending present institutional chaplaincy programs and in developing new programs of service.

### Support of Welfare Agencies in Synod

#### RESOLUTION 18, COMMITTEE 13

Memorial 1009, pages 703—704, *Reports and Memorials*

*Resolved*, That Resolution 2, pages 703—704 of *Reports and Memorials*, be adopted.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**NOTE:** Resolution 2 reads as follows:

WHEREAS, The Holy Scriptures admonish all Christians to "bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the Law of Christ"; and

WHEREAS, The welfare agencies within Synod are assisting both individual Christians and the congregations of Synod in following this divine directive; and

WHEREAS, These charitable or welfare agencies are for various and sundry reasons experiencing increasing difficulties in the financing of their vital and God-pleasing work; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Twenty-ninth Delegate Synod of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

A. Recommend to all members of our congregations the liberal support of these agencies by their prayers and gifts; and

B. Recommend to all congregations of Synod that they either include the support of such agencies in the budget of the congregation or that they provide in some other way for the regular support of such agencies according to their needs; and

C. Recommend to all District welfare committees that they secure information regarding the work and the need of support of such agencies, and that they regularly transmit such information to all congregations of the respective Districts; and

D. Direct the Department of Social Welfare to give increased guidance and support to the welfare committees of synodical Districts as well as to the welfare agencies within Synod to enable them to improve and expand their services.

### Establishment of Needed Welfare Services

#### RESOLUTION 19, COMMITTEE 13

Memorial 1009, page 704, *Reports and Memorials*

*Resolved*, That Resolution 3, page 704 of *Reports and Memorials*, be adopted.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**NOTE:** Resolution 3 reads as follows:

WHEREAS, The increasing complexities of life in our age have caused new needs for welfare services to develop among our people; and

WHEREAS, The welfare committees or boards of synodical Districts have been charged with the duty, among others, of "wisely and equitably ministering to the necessities of fellow Christians and others who may be in need of charity"; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Twenty-ninth Delegate Synod of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

A. Recommend to all District welfare committees or boards that they make a careful study of newly developing welfare needs among our people, particularly in the area of family life, and that they then take appropriate steps to meet these needs; and

B. Recommend to all congregational welfare committees that they give every possible assistance to such studies made by District welfare committees or by voluntary welfare agencies within Synod; and

C. Direct the Department of Social Welfare to assist District welfare committees and welfare agencies in the task of studying newly developing welfare needs among our people and to aid them in taking appropriate steps to meet these needs.

### Change in the Number of Members to Constitute the Board of Social Welfare

#### RESOLUTION 20, COMMITTEE 13

Memorial 1009, pages 704—705, *Reports and Memorials*

*Resolved*, That Resolution 4, pages 704—705 of *Reports and Memorials*, be adopted.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**NOTE:** Resolution 4 reads as follows:

WHEREAS, According to synodical resolution the Board of Social Welfare is to consist of five (5) members, of whom two (2) shall be members of the Board of Directors of Associated Lutheran Charities; and

WHEREAS, These restrictions tend to limit the representation of laymen on the Board, as illustrated by the present Board, which has only one representative of the laity; and

WHEREAS, It would strengthen the Board if there were a better representation of the laity; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Board of Social Welfare consist of six members, rather than five, that a minimum of two (2) of the members of the Board shall be laymen; and that Section XIII, par. 13.01 of the synodical *Handbook* be changed in accordance with this directive.

### Making Available Training for Hospital Chaplains

#### RESOLUTION 21, COMMITTEE 13

Memorial 1022, page 718, Committee 13

WHEREAS, The Savior admonishes us to remember also the least of His brethren; and

WHEREAS, Many of our members are receiving care in mental hospitals, schools for the handicapped, correctional institutions, and other similar institutions; and

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WHEREAS, Specialized training is desirable for more effective spiritual ministration; and

WHEREAS, The policies governing chaplaincies in many areas require a period of clinical pastoral training; therefore be it

*Resolved,*

1. That The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod study the needs for specialized work and take the necessary action to make available clinical training in the various specialized fields to meet these needs;

2. That the Synod study the possibility of making provision for the financial needs of those in training for full-time chaplaincies, and take whatever action is necessary to implement any resolution that may be adopted.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### **Consultant in Department of Social Welfare**

#### **RESOLUTION 22, COMMITTEE 13**

##### **Memorial 1023, pages 718—719, *Reports and Memorials***

WHEREAS, The ministry in institutions, namely, hospitals, correctional, penal, etc., is a most necessary and fruitful responsibility of the church; and

WHEREAS, This field offers opportunity to preach the Gospel to thousands of men, women, and children; and

WHEREAS, Many of our Lutheran people are inmates and patients in these institutions; and

WHEREAS, Hundreds of our clergy are engaged in ministry to the inmates of these institutions; and

WHEREAS, Our full-time and part-time clergy in this great mission field needs guidance, training, and counseling; and

WHEREAS, The majority of these institutions require the endorsement of their church organization as prerequisite for appointment as chaplain in these institutions; and

WHEREAS, Large areas of opportunity need study or surveying, preliminary to the establishment of institutional missions in those areas; and

WHEREAS, Currently established programs of institutional missions should be studied and evaluated for the purpose of improving and/or expanding present programs; and

WHEREAS, Chaplains now serving in institutions are in great

need of a fellow pastor trained in this field as a consultant and adviser; and

WHEREAS, Boards of directors of city missions now functioning have need of a trained consultant in this field to advise them when personnel problems arise; and

WHEREAS, There is a pressing need for recruitment of clergy who may serve in this field in order to take advantage of the many opportunities open to our church in Federal, state, county, and city institutions; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Social Welfare at present is not equipped to perform these services, having only one clergyman on the staff, who is at present overloaded with responsibilities; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod provide a properly trained pastor who shall serve as Institutional Chaplaincy Consultant in the Department of Social Welfare to perform the functions listed above.

**Action:** This resolution was *declined*.

### **Recognizing Services of Departed Brethren**

#### **RESOLUTION 23, COMMITTEE 13**

##### **Special Resolution**

##### *Departed Workers of the Past Triennium*

WHEREAS, Our Lord God in infinite wisdom has during the past triennium called to Himself the souls of the following faithful workers in our Synod:

##### *Former Vice-President of Synod*

Dr. Henry A. Grueber (he also served as District President)

##### *Former District Presidents*

Dr. John F. Boerger  
Rev. Carl J. Hesse  
Rev. O. Adelbert Sauer

Rev. J. George Spilman  
Dr. Arthur F. Wegener  
Rev. Walter Raedeke

##### *Professors*

Dr. William Arndt  
Dr. Walter A. Baepler  
Dr. Paul F. Bente  
Prof. John W. Berger  
Dr. Walter Herrling  
Prof. John E. Herzer

Prof. Paul H. Riedel  
Prof. Richard T. Rohlfing  
Dr. Theodore G. Stelzer  
Prof. John Werling  
Prof. Albert Wessling

*Former Professors*

Prof. Theodore C. Brohm  
Dr. Carl Gaenssle  
Prof. Karl Lorenz

Prof. Paul Reuter  
Prof. M. W. Riedel  
Rev. Walter Lorenz

*Others*

Rev. Paul C. Barth  
Rev. Martin Bruer  
Mr. Edgar W. Buenger  
Dr. E. E. Eberhardt  
Mr. A. K. Engel  
Dr. Julius A. Friedrich  
Rev. Alfred Fuehler  
Rev. Edward H. Gade  
Rev. Arthur H. Haake  
Dr. Traugott O. Herzer  
Mr. Fred Kolterman

Rev. F. Gerhard Kuehnert  
Mr. A. J. Meyer  
Rev. Rudolph H. C. Meyer  
Mr. Eugene Miessler  
Prof. Louis Rabe  
Rev. Theodore Roschke  
Rev. Gerhard Schmidt  
Dr. John F. Wenchel  
Mr. Edwin E. Zielske  
Dr. Hans Zorn  
Mr. G. Kruse

be it

*Resolved*, That Synod offer prayers of thanks to Almighty God for the gifts of these and all other loyal servants of the church and for the faithful use they made of their talents in the service of our Synod.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Vote of Thanks****RESOLUTION 24, COMMITTEE 13****Special Resolution***Resolved:*

A. That we thank Saint Paulus Congregation for serving as host congregation to the convention;

B. That we thank the California and Nevada District for making the necessary arrangements to assure a successful and enjoyable convention;

C. That we thank the congregations of San Francisco and of the neighboring areas for working and giving unstintingly to make this convention an outstanding event;

D. That we thank God for granting health and ability to our esteemed President, Dr. J. W. Behnken, to guide the convention through its many busy sessions;



E. That we thank all officers of Synod and its boards, committees, and departments for the part they played in preparing for, and in guiding, the convention;

F. That we thank the radio and television stations and their personnel for their excellent co-operation in publicizing and interpreting our discussions and resolutions;

G. That we thank the members of the press for their wide and accurate news coverage of our convention;

H. That we thank the mayor of the city of San Francisco and its officials for their good wishes and their hospitality;

I. That we thank the railroads who have co-operated in providing adequate transportation facilities;

J. That we thank all other individuals, groups, and organizations for their efforts to provide satisfactory and comfortable accommodations for this convention.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

### Creating a Library of Ecumenical Information

#### RESOLUTION 25, COMMITTEE 13

Memorial 617, pages 510—511, *Reports and Memorials*

WHEREAS, The availability of direct and reliable information concerning the growing and controversial ecumenical development in the Christian world has become very important for first-hand study of the theology, organization, and activity of the various federations; therefore be it

#### *Resolved:*

1. That the Committee on Doctrinal Unity establish a Library of Ecumenical Information and supply information from sources directly connected with the ecumenical movement on a regular and request basis to editors of periodicals and to other individuals and groups in our church;

2. That the Committee on Doctrinal Unity assist conferences of pastors and teachers in the study of the ecumenical movement by making available official publications and periodicals of ecumenical groups to them;

3. That the necessary budgetary requests for this special work of the Committee on Doctrinal Unity be referred to the Fiscal Conference for favorable action.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**COMMITTEE 16 — Nominations****Authorizing President of Synod to Make Necessary  
Appointments to Certain Boards of Control****SPECIAL RESOLUTION, COMMITTEE 16**

WHEREAS, The Synod in convention assembled has changed the composition of several of the Boards of Control of our educational institutions; and

WHEREAS, The charters of the institutions in question must be amended before additional members can be added; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we authorize the President of the Synod to make the necessary appointments to said Boards of Control after the charters have been amended to allow such additional membership, unless the charter provides otherwise for filling the vacancy.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Policy for Making Statements for Publication and  
Announcements to News Agencies During Convention****Special Resolution by Department of Public Relations**

*Resolved*, That no member of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod in attendance at the convention will make any statements for publication without securing the approval of the convention Public Relations Committee, and that all announcements to news agencies will be cleared through the press room of the convention.

**Action:** This resolution was *adopted*.

**Lay Delegate Meeting of Monday Evening,  
June 22, 1959****SPECIAL RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, We the laymen of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod realize that it is our ongoing individual responsibility to pledge ourselves and to organize our efforts to implement the many and varied programs of our Synod, through education and sincere support of the God-pleasing programs of our church, particularly in the areas of making our local people aware of the Synod's needs and the proposed solution. To help the lay delegates carry out this pledge,

*May We Suggest:*

1. That beginning with 1962, the convention schedule shall be arranged to have the lay delegates meet on the evening of the opening day for a briefing session;

2. That the convention schedule might set aside two evenings devoted to open hearings. This will make it possible for lay dele-

gates who are not appointed to floor committees to enter into more discussion in regard to proposed resolutions;

3. That the meetings suggested in the two previous paragraphs be organized and supervised by a lay member of the Board of the Synod; and

4. That every lay delegate regard himself for the next three years as a delegate from this convention to the congregations which he represents.

**Action:** These suggestions were *adopted*.

### **Church Schools and Public Schools \***

Both the state and the church are concerned about the education of children and youth. The state requires that children and youth be educated for civic, social, and vocational responsibilities. The Christian church has the responsibility of teaching children and youth to become disciples of Jesus Christ.

The effort of the state in public education is a community effort and therefore the responsibility of every citizen. The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod recognizes the responsibility that every citizen has to support and uphold the public schools. The Synod continues to encourage its members to interest themselves in the welfare of the public schools through personal participation on school boards and committees and financial support of the schools.

The church provides Christian education through various agencies—some part-time schools, others full-time schools. The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod encourages its congregations to establish Lutheran elementary schools and high schools. In the school year 1958—59 there were 1,268 Lutheran elementary schools, with an enrollment of 138,338, and 16 community Lutheran high schools, with an enrollment of 7,748. These schools are founded because of deep religious convictions as to the desirability of combining religious education with the teaching of the regular school subjects.

The Synod emphasizes that the development of Lutheran elementary schools and high schools is not to be misinterpreted as a criticism of the public school, disinterest in the public school, or unwillingness to support the public school. Lutheran schools are not in competition with the public schools; they are established to provide a specifically Christian education, which the public school cannot supply.

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\* A Statement adopted by The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod at the 44th Regular Convention, San Francisco, Calif., June 17—26, 1959.

## List of Unprinted Memorials

Report No.	Page in <i>Today's Business</i>	
166	26	Synod to Include Deaconess Program in Its System of Preparing Professional Workers for the Church
167	27	Four-Year Teacher-Training Program at Saint John's College
168	28	Suggestions for Co-ordinating and Improving Our Church's Recruitment Program
169	29	Withhold Action Re Establishment of New Junior College in Michigan
170	31	Establish Educational Institution in Catawba County, N. C.
171	33	Expanding the Preministerial Curriculum at Several of the Church's Junior Colleges to Four Years
172	34	Maintain Basic Structure of Our System of Ministerial Training
173	35	Establishment of New Junior College in Southeastern Section of the United States
174	36	Revise and Adjust Curricula of Our Ministerial Preparatory Schools
175		(There is no Unprinted Memorial 175)
176	37	Deny Establishment of New Junior College in Detroit Area; Add Two Junior Years to Senior College in Fort Wayne
177	38	Oakland Concordia Junior College Be Moved to Los Angeles Area; Theological Seminary Be Established in San Francisco Area
420	40	Entering Middle East (Supplement to 420, <i>Today's Business</i> , 41, 42, 43)
421	44	Entering Middle East
422	45	Entering Middle East
423	46	Modus Operandi for Board for Medical Work and the Duties of Its Executive Secretary
424	50	Study Mission Opportunities Among Negroes
528	51	Regulations Involving the Transfer of Women Teachers from One Congregation to Another
529	52	No Full-Time Executive Receiving Salary Eligible as a Voting Member of Any Synodical Board
530	53	Defer Action on Report of Synodical Survey Commission

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| 531   | 54  | Increasing the Per-Communicant Assessment to Help Defray Cost of Triennial Convention   |
| 622   | 55  | Substitute for Memorial 622, p. 514, <i>Reports and Memorials</i>   |
| 630   | 59  | Establishing a Commission to Study and Propose Supplementary Judicial Procedure for All Cases Involving Doctrinal Deviation                                 |
| 631   | 60  | Membership of Synod in National Lutheran Council  |
| 632   | 64  | Invite National Ev. Lutheran Church to Establish Organic Union with Missouri Synod; Finnish Relations Committee Be Instructed to Arrange Necessary Meetings |
| 633   | 65  | Re Memorial 617, Creating Office of Ecumenical Information; Re Memorial 621, Observers at Assembly of World Council of Churches                             |
| 634   | 70  | Re Book <i>Engagement and Marriage</i>  |
| 635   | 72  | Statement on Interfaith or Mixed Marriages  |
| 636   | 74  | Requesting Synod Not to Join Lutheran World Federation  |
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| 638   | 454 | Urging Conservative Attitude in Matters of Fellowship with Other Church Bodies  |
| 716   | 80  | Re Visual Aids Department   |
| 801-A | 82  | Supplement to 801-A, <i>Reports and Memorials</i> , p. 642  |
| 811   | 84  | Substitute for Memorial 811 in <i>Reports and Memorials</i> , p. 642  |
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| 825   | 86  | Establishment of a Fund-Raising Service   |
| 826   | 91  | Intrasynodical Organization Financial Reports   |
| 827   | 93  | (Cf. No. 804, Recommendation 6, p. 628 of <i>Reports and Memorials</i> ) Portion Recommended for District and Synod   |
| 1024  | 79  | Withdrawal of Memorial 1024, pp. 719—720, <i>Reports and Memorials</i> , "Committee to Study Church's Attitude Toward War"                                  |

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